

# ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION No. 126

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 217th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED APRIL 4, 2016

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman TIM EUSTACE**

**District 38 (Bergen and Passaic)**

**Assemblyman THOMAS P. GIBLIN**

**District 34 (Essex and Passaic)**

**Assemblyman BENJIE E. WIMBERLY**

**District 35 (Bergen and Passaic)**

**Assemblyman DANIEL R. BENSON**

**District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)**

**Assemblywoman JOANN DOWNEY**

**District 11 (Monmouth)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Urges President to establish Presidential Youth Council.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/28/2016)

AR126 EUSTACE, GIBLIN

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1 **AN ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION** urging the President of the United  
2 States to establish a Presidential Youth Council.

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4 **WHEREAS**, Young Americans under the age of 25 comprise over one  
5 third of the United States population, yet youth are  
6 underrepresented in the policymaking process; and

7 **WHEREAS**, Youth participation and engagement are universally  
8 recognized as safeguards of democracy, but the majority of young  
9 Americans do not believe they have a substantive voice in their  
10 government; and

11 **WHEREAS**, Policy decisions made today will have a pronounced impact  
12 on future generations; and

13 **WHEREAS**, The unique perspectives and valuable insights of young  
14 people are essential to ensure that investments made by government  
15 in youth programs and services are effective and efficient; and

16 **WHEREAS**, Numerous members of Congress, governors, state  
17 legislatures, mayors, and city councils have created youth councils  
18 that have proven to be an effective means of receiving input from  
19 young people, leading to more effective and efficient policies; and

20 **WHEREAS**, The United States Congress is currently considering House  
21 Joint Resolution No. 47, introduced on April 23, 2015, which  
22 supports the establishment of a Presidential Youth Council that  
23 would advise the President and the administration on the  
24 perspectives of young people, make public policy-related youth  
25 programs more efficient and effective, and address issues that will  
26 affect the long-term future of the United States; and

27 **WHEREAS**, House Joint Resolution No. 47 recommends that the  
28 council be composed of 24 individuals who are 16 to 24 years of  
29 age, have backgrounds reflective of our nation's diversity, have  
30 participated in public policy-related programs or initiatives, and can  
31 constructively contribute to policy deliberations; and

32 **WHEREAS**, A Presidential Youth Council would provide youth in  
33 America, who are systematically underrepresented and as a result  
34 often disengaged, with an opportunity to share their views and  
35 perspectives at the highest levels of our government; and

36 **WHEREAS**, The General Assembly of the State of New Jersey supports  
37 the creation of a Presidential Youth Council, which will promote  
38 the interests and welfare of our country's youth, allow the voices of  
39 young people to be heard, and ensure that policies that will affect  
40 youth are developed with their input and valuable perspectives;  
41 now, therefore,

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43 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the General Assembly of the State of New  
44 Jersey:

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46 1. The President is respectfully urged to establish a Presidential  
47 Youth Council in order to advise the President and the  
48 administration on the perspectives of young people, make youth

1 programs more efficient and effective, and provide valuable input  
2 on policies that will affect the long-term future of our nation.

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4 2. Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of State,  
5 shall be transmitted by the Clerk of the General Assembly to the  
6 President of the United States, the Majority and Minority Leaders of  
7 the United States Senate, the Speaker and Minority Leader of the  
8 United States House of Representatives, and each member of  
9 Congress elected from this State.

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#### STATEMENT

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14 The United States Congress is currently considering House Joint  
15 Resolution No. 47, which supports the establishment of a  
16 Presidential Youth Council to advise the President and the  
17 administration on the perspectives of young people, make youth  
18 programs more efficient and effective, and address issues that will  
19 affect the long-term future of the nation. The Presidential Youth  
20 Council would be composed of youth who are 16 to 24 years of age,  
21 have backgrounds reflective of our nation's diversity, and can  
22 constructively contribute to policy deliberations. This House  
23 respectfully urges the President to establish such a council.

24 Young Americans under the age of 25 comprise over one third of  
25 the United States population, yet youth are underrepresented in the  
26 policymaking process. Although youth participation and  
27 engagement are important safeguards of democracy, a majority of  
28 young Americans do not believe they have a substantive voice in  
29 their government. Young people have unique perspectives and  
30 insights that are essential in ensuring that government investments  
31 in youth programs and services are effective and efficient. The  
32 creation of a Presidential Youth Council will provide young citizens  
33 with an opportunity to share their views at the highest levels of  
34 government, and ensure that policies that will affect youth are  
35 developed with their valuable input and perspectives.