

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 66

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

217th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED SEPTEMBER 8, 2016

Sponsored by:

Senator JIM WHELAN

District 2 (Atlantic)

Senator SHIRLEY K. TURNER

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senators Van Drew, Weinberg, Thompson and Diegnan

SYNOPSIS

Urges President to establish Presidential Youth Council.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 9/30/2016)

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1 **A SENATE RESOLUTION** urging the President of the United States to
2 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
12 impact 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 Senate of the State of New Jersey supports the
37 creation of a Presidential Youth Council, which will promote the
38 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 Senate of the State of New Jersey:*

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

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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 Secretary of the Senate to the President
6 of the United States, the Majority and Minority Leaders of the
7 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 Presidential
16 Youth Council to advise the President and the administration on the
17 perspectives of young people, make youth programs more efficient and
18 effective, and address issues that will affect the long-term future of the
19 nation. The Presidential Youth Council would be composed of youth
20 who are 16 to 24 years of age, have backgrounds reflective of our
21 nation's diversity, and can constructively contribute to policy
22 deliberations. This House respectfully urges the President to establish
23 such a council.