

[First Reprint]

**ASSEMBLY, No. 4657**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**218th LEGISLATURE**

INTRODUCED OCTOBER 22, 2018

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman JOHN ARMATO**

**District 2 (Atlantic)**

**Assemblyman DANIEL R. BENSON**

**District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)**

**Assemblywoman BRITNEE N. TIMBERLAKE**

**District 34 (Essex and Passaic)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

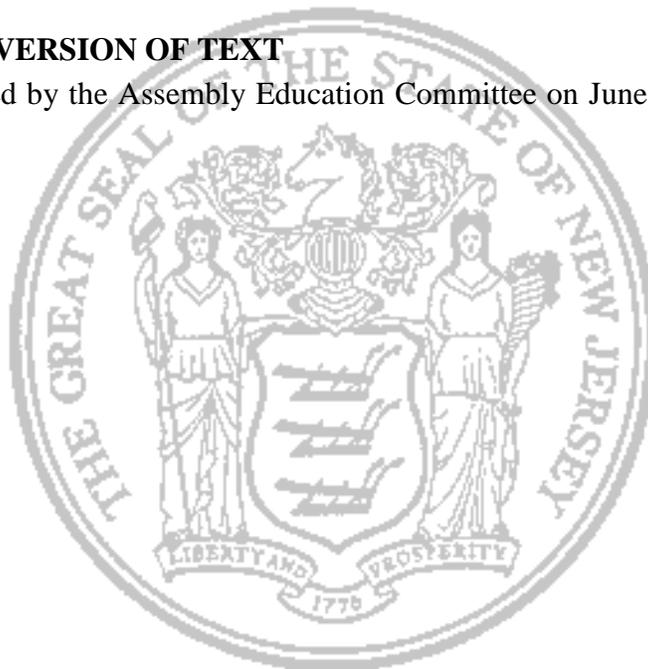
**Assemblywomen Reynolds-Jackson, DiMaso, Assemblyman Karabinchak,  
Assemblywomen Vainieri Huttle, Lampitt and Murphy**

**SYNOPSIS**

Establishes youth apprenticeship pilot program in Department of Education.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As reported by the Assembly Education Committee on June 10, 2019, with amendments.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 1/14/2020)**

1 AN ACT establishing a three-year youth apprenticeship pilot  
2 program.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. a. The Commissioner of Education shall establish a three-  
8 year youth apprenticeship pilot program to provide high school and  
9 college students between the ages of 16 and 21 an opportunity to  
10 develop valuable work skills while continuing their traditional  
11 education program. The goal of the pilot program shall be to prepare  
12 students to enter the workforce by providing some of the on-site  
13 employment training and related classroom instruction needed to  
14 obtain a license or certification for a skilled occupation.

15 b. A school district or institution of higher education which wants  
16 to participate in the program shall submit a proposal to the  
17 commissioner which outlines the district's or institution's plan to offer  
18 intensive career counseling and a customized learning experience to  
19 participating students.

20 c. The commissioner shall select two districts in each of the  
21 southern, central, and northern regions of the State to participate in the  
22 program and shall seek a cross section of school districts from urban,  
23 suburban, and rural areas of the State. The commissioner shall also  
24 select, in collaboration with the Secretary of Higher Education, four  
25 institutions of higher education to participate in the program.

26 <sup>1</sup>d. As used in this section, "youth apprenticeship" means a paid  
27 structured learning experience in which students enrolled in an  
28 approved program are placed into an employer-sponsored training  
29 program to learn a skilled trade or technical occupation that is clearly  
30 identified and commonly recognized throughout an industry, and that  
31 is customarily learned in a practical way through a structured,  
32 systematic program of on-the-job supervised training. Youth  
33 apprenticeship involves manual, mechanical, or technical skills and  
34 knowledge, and requires related theoretical instruction to supplement  
35 the on-the-job training. Youth apprenticeship programs are registered  
36 with the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce  
37 Development and the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of  
38 Apprenticeship and Training, in compliance with 29 C.F.R. s.29.29  
39 and 29.30.<sup>1</sup>

40

41 2. A participating school district or institution of higher  
42 education shall:

43 a. provide each participating student with intensive career  
44 counseling on career paths in the skilled trades and other fields that  
45 may offer apprenticeship opportunities;

**EXPLANATION** – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined **thus** is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

<sup>1</sup>Assembly AED committee amendments adopted June 10, 2019.

1       b. ensure that a participating student has the flexibility needed  
2 to meet the demands of both the apprenticeship program and the  
3 academic program in which the student is enrolled; and

4       c. develop and implement, in collaboration with the approved  
5 employers selected pursuant to section 3 of this act, a class-based  
6 curriculum that complements and reinforces the work skills and  
7 knowledge developed through the student's apprenticeship  
8 experience.

9  
10       3. a. The Department of Education, in consultation with the  
11 Department of Labor and Workforce Development, shall develop:

12       (1) a list of approved employers with worksites near the  
13 participating school districts and institutions of higher education  
14 that have agreed to participate in the pilot program; and

15       (2) the process which shall be utilized for matching students to  
16 apprenticeship opportunities with the approved employers.

17       b. An approved employer shall pay a participating student an  
18 appropriate wage commensurate with the position held by the  
19 student, and shall offer periodic opportunities for performance  
20 review and wage increases, as appropriate.

21       c. An approved employer shall award an industry-recognized  
22 credential to a student upon his successful completion of the  
23 program.

24  
25       4. Each participating school district or institution of higher  
26 education shall select its program participants. A student selected to  
27 participate in the program shall:

28       a. complete work-based training under the supervision of an  
29 approved employer;

30       b. complete the class-based curriculum developed pursuant to  
31 subsection c. of section 2 of this act; and

32       c. be awarded credit toward a high school diploma or a  
33 postsecondary credential, 'or both,'<sup>1</sup> as applicable, for the work-based  
34 training and classroom instruction completed pursuant to this section.

35  
36       5. At the conclusion of the pilot program, the Commissioner of  
37 Education shall submit a report to the Governor and, pursuant to  
38 section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), the Legislature. The  
39 report shall contain information on the implementation of the pilot  
40 program including, but not limited to:

41       a. the number of students who participated in and who completed  
42 the program from each participating school district and institution of  
43 higher education;

44       b. wage information regarding payments disbursed to students  
45 participating in the program;

46       c. feedback from students participating in the program on ways to  
47 improve the program;

- 1 d. the types of workforce skills and training that participating
- 2 students acquired;
- 3 e. the number of students <sup>1</sup>**[retained]** who were hired as full-time
- 4 employees<sup>1</sup> by <sup>1</sup>the<sup>1</sup> employers <sup>1</sup>with whom they were placed.<sup>1</sup>
- 5 following program completion; and
- 6 f. the commissioner's recommendation on the feasibility of
- 7 implementing the program on a Statewide basis.
- 8
- 9 6. This act shall take effect immediately.