

ASSEMBLY, No. 811

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman ANTHONY S. VERRELLI

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

Assemblywoman VERLINA REYNOLDS-JACKSON

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

Assemblywoman ANGELA V. MCKNIGHT

District 31 (Hudson)

Co-Sponsored by:

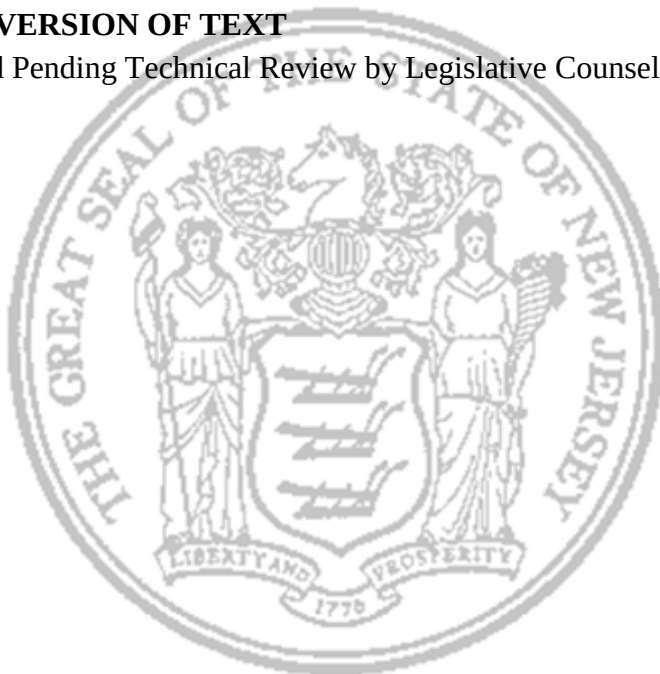
Assemblyman Caputo

SYNOPSIS

Directs DOLWD to identify, and post on website, employment opportunities with minimal barriers to entry for persons returning to workforce after imprisonment.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/5/2021)

1 **AN ACT** concerning employment opportunities for individuals
2 returning to workforce after imprisonment and supplementing
3 Title 34 of the Revised Statutes.

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

7
8 1. The Legislature finds and declares that:

9 a. Employment is crucial for individuals returning from
10 incarceration to their communities. Employed individuals are
11 significantly less likely to return to incarceration post-release
12 because employment enables successful reintegration to society;

13 b. Recently-incarcerated individuals face barriers to entry for
14 quality employment, that often limit the person's ability to obtain
15 employment and may discourage the individual from even seeking
16 quality of life improvements;

17 c. One barrier that recently-incarcerated individuals face is the
18 stigma associated with formerly incarcerated persons. Employers
19 may not even consider a candidate with a conviction; and

20 d. The lack of education is another barrier to employment for
21 recently incarcerated individuals. Many recently-incarcerated
22 individuals do not have the educational opportunities required for
23 an effective return to society.

24 e. Assisting individuals who were recently-incarcerated in
25 obtaining employment benefits all residents of the State because it
26 increases State-wide productivity and economic prosperity.

27
28 2. The Department of Labor and Workforce Development shall
29 identify employment opportunities for persons returning to the
30 workforce after incarceration, which have minimal barriers of entry
31 and which have a demand for workers. The department shall
32 conspicuously post, on an ongoing basis, notification of these
33 employment opportunities on its website.

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35 3. This act shall take effect on the 90th day next following
36 enactment.

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STATEMENT

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41 This bill charges the Department of Labor and Workforce
42 Development with identifying those employment opportunities for
43 person returning to the workforce after imprisonment, which have
44 minimal barriers. The department is required to post, on an ongoing
45 basis, this employment information on its website.