

ASSEMBLY, No. 1394

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman YVONNE LOPEZ

District 19 (Middlesex)

Assemblywoman CAROL A. MURPHY

District 7 (Burlington)

Assemblyman DANIEL R. BENSON

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman McKnight, Assemblyman Zwicker and Assemblywoman Reynolds-Jackson

SYNOPSIS

Establishes “Registered Apprenticeship Program for State Agencies”; makes an appropriation.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/12/2021)

1 **AN ACT** concerning apprentices and State agencies and
2 supplementing P.L.1992, c.43 (C.34:15D-1 et seq.).

3

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

6

7 1. The Legislature finds and declares that:

8 a. Technician and trade level jobs play an important role in
9 New Jersey's economy, and offer pathways for workers to
10 successful standards of living;

11 b. These jobs require postsecondary education and training, but
12 often do not require a college degree;

13 c. Registered Apprenticeship is a nationally recognized, tried
14 and true strategy to prepare a skilled workforce for technician and
15 trade level jobs;

16 d. Registered Apprenticeship provides workers with a portable
17 credential, and provides businesses with a pipeline of skilled
18 workers with higher productivity, and return on investment in their
19 employees;

20 e. Like private employers, State agencies can take advantage of
21 the benefits of registered apprentices to better recruit and retain
22 State workers;

23 f. It is therefore an appropriate public purpose to establish a
24 Registered Apprenticeship Program for State Agencies, to be
25 administered by the Department of Labor and Workforce
26 Development.

27

28 2. As used in this act:

29 "Apprenticeship program" means a registered apprenticeship
30 program providing to each trainee combined classroom and on-the-
31 job training under the direct and close supervision of a highly
32 skilled worker in an occupation recognized as an apprenticeable
33 trade, and registered by the Office of Apprenticeship of the U.S.
34 Department of Labor and meeting the standards established by the
35 office, or registered by a State apprenticeship agency recognized by
36 the office.

37 "Program" means the Registered Apprenticeship Program for
38 State Agencies.

39

40 3. a. The Registered Apprenticeship Program for State
41 Agencies is established in the Department of Labor and Workforce
42 Development.

43 b. The program shall:

44 (1) produce guidelines, in consultation with the Department of
45 Education and the Civil Service Commission and an application for
46 State agencies to register an apprenticeship program and seek a
47 State incentive to cover the costs of apprenticeship-related
48 instruction;

- 1 (2) allocate funds to support apprenticeship-related instruction;
- 2 (3) consult interested State agencies to identify occupations for
- 3 a registered apprenticeship program;
- 4 (4) plan and prepare an information strategy to guide State
- 5 agencies in selecting apprenticeship-related instruction.
- 6 Information will identify all financial aid resources available to
- 7 support registered apprenticeships, including the funding program
- 8 for agencies to support apprenticeship-related instruction; and
- 9 (5) submit an annual report to the Legislature by March 1 of
- 10 each year, pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1).
- 11
- 12 4. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the
- 13 Registered Apprenticeship Program for State Agencies in the
- 14 Department of Labor and Workforce Development a sum of
- 15 \$210,000 for costs associated with allocating funds to support
- 16 apprenticeship-related instruction pursuant to section 3 of this act.
- 17
- 18 5. This act shall take effect immediately.
- 19
- 20

21 STATEMENT

- 22
- 23 This bill establishes the Registered Apprenticeship Program for
- 24 State Agencies in the Department of Labor and Workforce
- 25 Development.
- 26 Under the bill, the program is required to:
- 27 (1) produce guidelines, in consultation with the Department of
 - 28 Education and the Civil Service Commission and an application for
 - 29 State agencies to register an apprenticeship program and seek a
 - 30 State incentive to cover the costs of apprenticeship-related
 - 31 instruction;
 - 32 (2) allocate funds to support apprenticeship-related instruction;
 - 33 (3) consult interested State agencies to identify occupations for
 - 34 a registered apprenticeship program;
 - 35 (4) plan and prepare an information strategy to guide State
 - 36 agencies in selecting apprenticeship-related instruction.
 - 37 Information will identify all financial aid resources available to
 - 38 support registered apprenticeships, including the funding program
 - 39 for agencies to support apprenticeship-related instruction; and
 - 40 (5) submit an annual report to the Legislature by March 1 of
 - 41 each year, pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1).
 - 42 The bill also appropriates from the General Fund to the
 - 43 Registered Apprenticeship Program for State Agencies in the
 - 44 Department of Labor and Workforce Development a sum of
 - 45 \$210,000 for costs associated with allocating funds to support
 - 46 apprenticeship-related instruction.