

ASSEMBLY, No. 2510

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 3, 2020

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman NANCY F. MUNOZ

District 21 (Morris, Somerset and Union)

Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE

District 37 (Bergen)

SYNOPSIS

Establishes entrepreneur-in-residence pilot program.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 2/24/2020)

1 AN ACT establishing an entrepreneur-in-residence pilot program
2 and supplementing Title 52 of the Revised Statutes.

3
4 BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6
7 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the
8 “Entrepreneur-in-Residence Act.”

9
10 2. As used in P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the
11 Legislature as this bill):

12 “Department” means any executive branch department, agency,
13 or authority of this State.

14 “Entrepreneur-in-residence” means an individual appointed to a
15 position under the program.

16 “Program” means the New Jersey Entrepreneur-In-Residence
17 Program established in the Department of State pursuant to section
18 3 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this
19 bill).

20 “Secretary” means the Secretary of State or the secretary’s
21 designee.

22
23 3. There is hereby established in the Department of State, the
24 New Jersey Entrepreneur-In-Residence Program. The purpose of
25 this program is to provide for better outreach by the State to the
26 private sector, strengthen coordination and interaction between the
27 State and the private sector on issues relevant to entrepreneurs and
28 small business concerns, and to make State government programs
29 simpler, easier to access, more efficient, and more responsive to the
30 needs of small business concerns and entrepreneurs.

31
32 4. a. The secretary shall appoint entrepreneurs-in-residence
33 under the program to a department of the secretary’s choosing
34 during each year, provided that not more than 10 entrepreneurs-in-
35 residence are appointed per year.

36 b. The secretary shall select entrepreneurs-in-residence from
37 among individuals who:

38 (1) are successful in their field;

39 (2) have demonstrated success in working with small business
40 concerns and entrepreneurs; or

41 (3) have successfully developed, invented, or created a product
42 and brought the product to the marketplace.

43 c. In appointing entrepreneurs-in-residence, the secretary shall
44 give priority to placing entrepreneurs-in-residence across State
45 government at departments where there is an identified need for
46 improved interaction with entrepreneurs and small business
47 concerns; and to the extent practicable, not appoint more than two

1 entrepreneurs-in-residence to positions in the same department
2 during the same year.

3 d. An entrepreneur-in-residence shall be a full-time employee
4 of the department to which the entrepreneur-in-residence is
5 appointed, and may not serve as an entrepreneur-in-residence for
6 more than a period of two years.

7

8 5. a. An entrepreneur-in-residence shall:

9 (1) assist the secretary and the department where placed in
10 improving outreach to small business concerns and entrepreneurs;

11 (2) provide recommendations to the secretary and the
12 commissioner of the department employing the entrepreneur-in-
13 residence on inefficient or duplicative programs, if any, at the
14 department;

15 (3) provide recommendations to the secretary and the
16 commissioner of the department employing the entrepreneur-in-
17 residence on methods to improve program efficiency at the
18 department or new initiatives, if any, that may be instituted at the
19 department;

20 (4) facilitate meetings and forums to educate small business
21 concerns and entrepreneurs on programs or initiatives of the
22 secretary and the department employing the entrepreneur-in-
23 residence;

24 (5) facilitate in-service sessions with employees of the
25 Department of State and the department employing the
26 entrepreneur-in-residence on issues of concern to entrepreneurs and
27 small business concerns; and

28 (6) provide technical assistance or mentorship to small business
29 concerns and entrepreneurs in accessing programs at the
30 Department of State and the department employing the
31 entrepreneur-in-residence.

32 b. The rate of basic pay for an entrepreneur-in-residence shall
33 be set by the department employing the entrepreneur-in-residence
34 with the approval of the secretary, and shall be comparable to the
35 rate offered to department employees with similar levels of
36 educational attainment, years of experience, and professional
37 responsibilities within the department.

38 c. An entrepreneur-in-residence shall report directly to the head
39 of the department employing the entrepreneur-in-residence.

40

41 6. The secretary may establish an informal working group of
42 entrepreneurs-in-residence to discuss best practices, experiences,
43 obstacles, opportunities, and recommendations.

44

45 7. The secretary shall not appoint an entrepreneur-in-residence
46 pursuant to P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as
47 this bill) after December 31, 2020.

1 8. The Department of State shall adopt rules and regulations,
2 pursuant to the “Administrative Procedure Act,” P.L.1968, c.410
3 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), necessary to implement the provisions of
4 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

5
6 9. This act shall take effect immediately, but shall remain
7 inoperative for 120 days following the date of enactment.

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10 STATEMENT

11
12 This bill establishes an entrepreneur-in-residence program in the
13 Department of State with the purpose of providing better outreach
14 by the State to the private sector, strengthening coordination and
15 interaction between the State and the private sector on issues
16 relevant to entrepreneurs and small business concerns, and making
17 State government programs simpler, easier to access, more efficient,
18 and more responsive to the needs of small business concerns and
19 entrepreneurs.

20 The entrepreneur-in-residence program places experienced and
21 successful entrepreneurs from various fields in departments and
22 agencies of the State related to those areas of entrepreneurship. The
23 Secretary of State (secretary), or the secretary’s designee, is
24 responsible for selecting the entrepreneurs and selecting the
25 departments where entrepreneurs will be placed for assignments of
26 up to two years.

27 Once placed at a department, the entrepreneur-in-residence is to
28 assist the secretary and departments in improving outreach to small
29 business concerns and entrepreneurs, provide recommendations to
30 the secretary and the head of the department on inefficient or
31 duplicative programs, provide recommendations to the secretary
32 and the head of the department on methods to improve program
33 efficiency at the department, facilitate meetings and forums to
34 educate small business concerns and entrepreneurs on programs or
35 initiatives of the secretary and the department, facilitate in-service
36 sessions with employees of the Department of State and the
37 assigned departments on issues of concern to entrepreneurs and
38 small business concerns, and provide technical assistance or
39 mentorship to small business concerns and entrepreneurs in
40 accessing programs at the Department of State and the assigned
41 departments employing the entrepreneur-in-residence.

42 The entrepreneur-in-residence is to be an employee of the
43 assigned department with a salary determined by the head of the
44 department with the approval of the secretary, which is comparable
45 to the rate offered to department employees with similar levels of
46 educational attainment, years of experience, and professional
47 responsibilities within the department.

1 The secretary may place up to 10 entrepreneurs per year at
2 departments across the State, with up to two entrepreneurs per
3 department. The secretary may also establish informal working
4 group of entrepreneurs-in-residence to discuss best practices,
5 experiences, obstacles, opportunities, and recommendations.

6 The deadline for appointing entrepreneurs-in-residence is
7 December 31, 2020.