

ASSEMBLY, No. 4017

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MAY 4, 2020

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman RONALD S. DANCER

District 12 (Burlington, Middlesex, Monmouth and Ocean)

SYNOPSIS

Establishes alternative application and issuance procedure for employment certificates, age certificates, and special permits during state of emergency.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning the issuance of employment certificates, age
2 certificates, and special permits during a state of emergency.

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

6
7 1. a. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the
8 contrary, for the duration of the public health emergency and state
9 of emergency declared by the Governor under Executive Order 103
10 of 2020 or until the start of the 2020-2021 school year, whichever is
11 later, the Department of Labor and Workforce Development shall
12 establish an alternate procedure for the issuance of employment
13 certificates, age certificates, and special permits under P.L.1940,
14 c.153 (C.34:2-21.1 et seq.).

15 b. Under the alternate procedure, an individual applying for an
16 employment certificate, age certificate, or special permit may
17 submit the application either by mail or through an online portal
18 created and maintained by the department. An application shall
19 include the following documentation as deemed necessary by the
20 department:

21 (1) evidence of age showing that the minor is of the age required
22 by law to work;

23 (2) a promise of employment signed by the prospective employer
24 or by someone duly authorized by the employer setting forth the
25 specific nature of the occupation in which he intends to employ the
26 minor, the wages to be paid to the minor, and the number of hours
27 per day and days per week the minor will be employed; and

28 (3) evidence of approval by the parent or guardian of the
29 minor's employment.

30 c. Upon approval of the application, the department shall issue
31 and forward the employment certificate, age certificate, or special
32 permit as appropriate, and return the supporting documentation.

33 d. In accordance with the provisions of section 16 of P.L.1940,
34 c.153 (C.34:2-21.16), no fees or expenses incurred in obtaining any
35 certificate or special permit shall be charged to or paid by any child,
36 parent, guardian, or other person having custody and control of the
37 child for any services under this act.

38 e. The Commissioner of the Department of Labor and
39 Workforce Development shall notify the Commissioner of
40 Education and every board of education of the alternate procedure
41 established pursuant to this act. The Department of Labor and
42 Workforce Development and the Department of Education shall
43 post in a prominent location on their Internet websites, information
44 on the alternate procedure to be followed for the issuance of
45 employment certificates, age certificates, and special permits for the
46 duration of the public health emergency and state of emergency
47 declared by the Governor pursuant to Executive Order 103 of 2020
48 or until the start of the 2020-2021 school year, whichever is later.

1 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

2

3

4

STATEMENT

5

6 Under current law, in order for a minor to obtain an employment
7 certificate, age certificate, or special permit, more commonly
8 known as “working papers,” an individual has to submit an
9 application to an issuing officer. Issuing officers are defined as
10 superintendents, supervising principals, or teachers designated by a
11 board of education.

12 As schools across the State remain closed due to the current state
13 of emergency, and with the end of the school year quickly
14 approaching, establishing an alternative procedure for the issuance
15 of “working papers” is critical to providing students access to
16 summer employment at businesses across the State; for example, in
17 the sponsor’s district, at the State’s largest amusement park, Six
18 Flags Great Adventure.

19 This bill provides the Department of Labor and Workforce
20 Development with the authority to issue the certificates and special
21 permits for the duration of the public health emergency declared by
22 the Governor under Executive Order 103 issued in response to the
23 coronavirus pandemic or until the start of the 2020-2021 school
24 year, whichever is later.

25 Under the bill, an individual applying for a certificate or special
26 permit will submit an application to the department either by mail
27 or through an online portal to be established and maintained by the
28 department. The application will include the following
29 documentation as deemed necessary by the department: (1)
30 evidence of age showing that the minor is of the age required by
31 law to work; (2) a promise of employment signed by the
32 prospective employer or by someone duly authorized by the
33 employer setting forth the specific nature of the occupation in
34 which he intends to employ the minor, the wages to be paid to the
35 minor, and the number of hours per day and days per week the
36 minor will be employed; and (3) evidence of approval by the parent
37 or guardian of the minor’s employment.

38 Upon approval of the application, the department will issue and
39 forward the employment certificate, age certificate, or special
40 permit as appropriate, and return the supporting documentation.

41 This bill directs the Department of Labor and Workforce
42 Development and the Department of Education to post in a
43 prominent location on their Internet websites, information on the
44 alternate procedures to be followed for the issuance of employment
45 certificates, age certificates, and special permits for the duration of
46 the public health emergency and state of emergency declared by the
47 Governor pursuant to Executive Order 103 of 2020 or until the start
48 of the 2020-2021 school year, whichever is later.