

ASSEMBLY, No. 5426

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 8, 2021

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman BRIAN BERGEN

District 25 (Morris and Somerset)

Assemblywoman ANGELA V. MCKNIGHT

District 31 (Hudson)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblymen Thomson, DePhillips, DiMaio and Scharfenberger

SYNOPSIS

Establishes “Bring Veterans to New Jersey Program.”

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/1/2021)

1 **AN ACT** establishing the “Bring Veterans to New Jersey Program”
2 and supplementing N.J.S.38A:3-6.

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

6
7 1. a. There is established in the Department of Military and
8 Veterans' Affairs the “Bring Veterans to New Jersey Program.” The
9 purpose of this program shall be to help New Jersey employers
10 recruit qualified veterans to fill positions in New Jersey by
11 providing relocation assistance to those veterans through eligible
12 employers. The department shall contract with a nonprofit
13 organization in New Jersey to administer the program.

14 b. The department shall enter into an agreement with
15 participating employers. A participating employer shall agree to
16 provide relocation assistance to an eligible veteran for eligible
17 expenses, which shall be reimbursed to the employer by the
18 department in an amount not to exceed \$5,000. The department
19 shall not provide relocation assistance directly to veterans, or
20 provide reimbursements to employers who have not entered into an
21 agreement with the department, or provide reimbursement to
22 employers for veterans who are not eligible.

23 c. The department shall develop criteria for the provision of
24 relocation assistance. To qualify for relocation assistance, a veteran
25 shall agree to relocate from another state to New Jersey to accept
26 employment with a participating employer and maintain that
27 employment for no less than 12 months.

28 d. A veteran who is employed with the participating employer
29 for less than 12 months shall reimburse the employer for the
30 relocation assistance, and the employer shall reimburse the
31 department. However, if the veteran’s termination is not at fault of
32 the employee, including because of a family emergency, layoff, or
33 other situations of hardship, the department shall create a
34 mechanism and criteria to provide for partial or total forgiveness of
35 the reimbursement of relocation assistance.

36 e. In order to be eligible for receiving relocation assistance, a
37 veteran shall:

38 (1) create a profile with the nonprofit contracted to administer
39 the program. A participating employer shall select and contact
40 candidates regarding available positions using the profiles; and

41 (2) after accepting a position, document the eligible expenses
42 necessary for reimbursement. Upon receipt of the documentation,
43 the participating employer shall reimburse the veteran for relocation
44 expenses that are eligible in accordance with its relocation policy or
45 procedure in an amount not to exceed \$5,000 per household.

1 f. The Adjutant General shall adopt, in accordance with the
2 "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-
3 1 et seq.), rules and regulations necessary to effectuate the
4 provisions of this act.

5
6 2. This act shall take effect 180 days after enactment.
7

8
9 STATEMENT
10

11 This bill establishes the "Bring Veterans to New Jersey
12 Program" in the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs. This
13 program shall help New Jersey employers recruit qualified veterans
14 to fill positions in New Jersey by providing relocation assistance to
15 those qualified military veterans through eligible employers. The
16 department shall contract with a nonprofit organization in New
17 Jersey to administer the program.

18 The department shall enter into an agreement with participating
19 employers, who agree to provide relocation assistance to eligible
20 veterans for eligible expenses. The department shall reimburse these
21 expenses to participating employers in an amount not to exceed
22 \$5,000. The department shall develop criteria for the granting of
23 relocation assistance.

24 The process for receiving relocation assistance shall be as
25 follows:

26 (1) A veteran must create a profile with the nonprofit contracted
27 to administer the program. A participating employer shall use these
28 profiles to select and contact candidates regarding available
29 positions.

30 (2) After accepting a position, document the eligible expenses
31 necessary for reimbursement. Upon receipt of the documentation,
32 the participating employer shall reimburse the veteran for relocation
33 expenses that are eligible in accordance with its relocation policy or
34 procedure in an amount not to exceed \$5,000 per household.

35 The Adjutant General may adopt rules and regulations necessary
36 to effectuate the program.