

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION

No. 147

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 5, 2020

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman ANNETTE QUIJANO

District 20 (Union)

Assemblyman DANIEL R. BENSON

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

SYNOPSIS

Urges Governor and Legislature of New York to enact legislation requiring Waterfront Commission of New York Harbor to accept applications for inclusion of new employees to longshoremen's register.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/11/2020)

1 **A JOINT RESOLUTION** urging the Governor and Legislature of New
2 York to enact legislation requiring the Waterfront Commission
3 of New York Harbor to accept applications for the inclusion of
4 new employees in the longshoremen’s register.
5
6 **WHEREAS**, In September 2007, the Governor and Legislature of New
7 Jersey enacted P.L.2007, c.167, a law requiring the Waterfront
8 Commission of New York Harbor to accept any application for the
9 inclusion of new employees in the longshoremen’s register of the
10 Port of New York District, as provided in that law; and
11 **WHEREAS**, Because the Waterfront Commission of New York Harbor
12 is a bi-state commission, P.L.2007, c.167 will remain inoperative
13 until the enactment into law by the State of New York of legislation
14 of substantially similar substance and effect; and
15 **WHEREAS**, The enactment of legislation in New York that is
16 substantially similar to P.L.2007, c.167 would remove the existing
17 standards that the commission must use when deciding whether to
18 accept or reject an application for the inclusion of employees in the
19 longshoremen’s register, and would require the commission to
20 accept any application; and
21 **WHEREAS**, The current standards used to evaluate applications may
22 hinder the ability of employers and labor organizations of
23 longshoremen to add new workers to the longshoremen’s register;
24 and
25 **WHEREAS**, This legislation would ensure that the commission’s law
26 enforcement mission is unabated, thereby allowing the commission
27 to continue to screen individually every candidate attempting to join
28 the longshoremen’s register so that only individuals with the
29 character necessary to enjoy a meaningful and productive career are
30 allowed to join the longshore workforce; and
31 **WHEREAS**, The Port of New York and New Jersey is under intense
32 pressure from the other Atlantic Coast ports of Norfolk, Baltimore,
33 Charleston, and Savannah, with each of these competing ports
34 providing significant economic advantages to employers and
35 workers alike; and
36 **WHEREAS**, Without legislative action by the State of New York, the
37 Port of New York and New Jersey will be denied the flexibility
38 necessary to hire and train workers in a timely manner, which will
39 continue to impede the economic growth of the port; and
40 **WHEREAS**, The enactment of legislation by the State of New York
41 substantially similar in substance and effect to P.L.2007, c.167
42 would enhance the ability of port employers to add to the longshore
43 workforce and provide more workers opportunities for productive
44 careers in the highly competitive global shipping industry; now,
45 therefore,
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47 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the*
48 *State of New Jersey:*

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