ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION
No. 163

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MAY 7, 2020

Sponsored by:
Assemblyman PARKER SPACE
District 24 (Morris, Sussex and Warren)
Assemblyman JOSEPH V. EGAN
District 17 (Middlesex and Somerset)
Assemblyman WAYNE P. DEANGELO
District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Co-Sponsored by:
Assemblyman Wirths and Assemblywoman B.DeCroce

SYNOPSIS

Designates second week of November of each year as "National Apprenticeship Week in New Jersey."

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.

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

A JOINT RESOLUTION designating the second week of November of each year as "National Apprenticeship Week in New Jersey."

WHEREAS, The National Apprenticeship Act of 1937 was approved on August 16, 1937, thereby establishing the National Registered Apprenticeship System, a comprehensive system of partnering among employers, labor education institutions, and federal and state governments to shape skilled training for American workers; and

WHEREAS, The State of New Jersey recognizes that the 21st century economy demands a highly-skilled workforce that possesses industry-recognized post-secondary degrees and credentials, and the ability to respond immediately to changing economic and business needs; and

WHEREAS, The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), signed into law on July 22, 2014, provides Americans with increased access to training, education, and work-based learning experiences necessary to succeed in the labor market; and

WHEREAS, WIOA requires states to strategically align workforce development to ensure that employment and work-based training services are coordinated, so that job-seekers acquire industry-recognized credentials for in-demand occupations that meet the employers' needs; and

WHEREAS, The registered apprenticeship system has been used for more than 80 years to meet the needs of employers seeking a highly-skilled workforce and the needs of employees seeking a flexible training model which combines related technical instruction with structured, on-the-job learning experiences; and

WHEREAS, Registered apprenticeship is a vital component of talent development strategies in many high demand and high growth sectors; and

WHEREAS, According to the United States Department of Labor, New Jersey currently has more than 7,200 active registered apprentices and more than 700 registered apprenticeship sponsors; and

WHEREAS, Completion of an apprenticeship program leads to an industry-driven, nationally recognized credential that certifies occupational proficiency, which other employers will recognize as valuable and on which the apprentice can build to further his or her skills, knowledge, and education; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:*

1. The second week of November of each year is designated as "National Apprenticeship Week in New Jersey," in acknowledgement of the importance of apprenticeship programs in our State and the positive impact they have on individuals and businesses.

2. The Governor is requested to annually issue a proclamation recognizing the second week of November as "National Apprenticeship Week in New Jersey" and shall call upon public officials and all residents of the State to observe the week with appropriate activities and programs.

3. This joint resolution shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

This joint resolution designates the second week of November of each year as "National Apprenticeship Week in New Jersey" in acknowledgement of the importance of apprenticeship programs in our State and the positive impact they have on individuals and businesses.

The State also recognizes that the 21st century economy demands a highly-skilled workforce that possesses industry-recognized post-secondary degrees and credentials, and the ability to respond immediately to changing economic and business needs.

The registered apprenticeship system, established under the National Apprenticeship Act of 1937, has been used for more than eight decades to meet the needs of employers seeking a highly-skilled workforce and the needs of employees seeking a flexible training model which combines related technical instruction with structured on-the-job learning experiences.

Completion of an apprenticeship program leads to an industry-driven, nationally recognized credential that certifies occupational proficiency; this means that other employers will recognize its value and the apprentice can build on its foundation to further skills, knowledge, and education.