

[First Reprint]

# ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION No. 169

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 25, 2020

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE**

**District 37 (Bergen)**

**Assemblywoman MILA M. JASEY**

**District 27 (Essex and Morris)**

**Assemblywoman ANNETTE QUIJANO**

**District 20 (Union)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

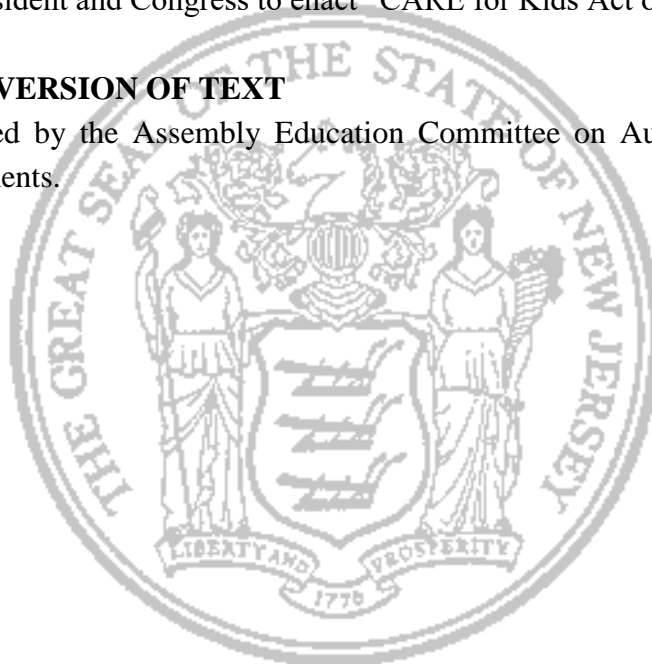
**Assemblywoman Murphy, Assemblyman Chiaravalloti, Assemblywoman Speight, Assemblyman Tully, Assemblywomen Swain, Downey and Assemblyman Benson**

**SYNOPSIS**

Urges President and Congress to enact “CARE for Kids Act of 2019.”

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As reported by the Assembly Education Committee on August 10, 2020, with amendments.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 8/27/2020)

1 **AN ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION** urging the President and Congress of  
2 the United States to enact the “CARE for Kids Act of 2019.”  
3  
4 **WHEREAS**, School meals are critical to children’s health and well-  
5 being and **1[ensures] ensure<sup>1</sup>** that children have the nutrition they  
6 need to effectively learn throughout the school day; and  
7 **WHEREAS**, Research shows that receiving free school meals reduces  
8 food insecurity, obesity rates, and poor health among children; and  
9 **WHEREAS**, The federal School Breakfast Program (SBP) and the  
10 federal National School Lunch Program (NSLP) provide  
11 nutritionally balanced, free school meals to millions of American  
12 children each school day; and  
13 **WHEREAS**, Under **1the<sup>1</sup>** SBP and NSLP, children may be determined  
14 categorically eligible for free school meals through participation in  
15 certain federal assistance programs, such as the Supplemental  
16 Nutrition Assistance Program, or based on the child’s status as a  
17 homeless, migrant, runaway, or foster child; and  
18 **WHEREAS**, Under **1the<sup>1</sup>** SBP and NSLP, children from families with  
19 incomes at or below 130 percent of the federal poverty level are  
20 eligible for free school meals; and  
21 **WHEREAS**, Many children are excluded from categorical eligibility to  
22 receive free school meals because they have moved out of the foster  
23 care system and are in the care of grandparents or other relatives  
24 who have adopted them or have become their legal guardians; and  
25 **WHEREAS**, More than 7.8 million children under the age of 18 live in  
26 homes where the householders are grandparents or relatives other  
27 **1than<sup>1</sup>** their parents; and  
28 **WHEREAS**, The federal “Caregivers Access and Responsible  
29 Expansion (CARE) for Kids Act of 2019,” introduced by United  
30 States Senator Bob Casey (D-PA), provides automatic eligibility for  
31 free school meals to children being raised by a relative who  
32 receives adoption or guardianship assistance; to children being  
33 raised by grandparents or other relatives due to placement by a state  
34 or tribal welfare agency; and to children living in “grandfamily”  
35 housing or receiving housing assistance under the “Native  
36 American Housing and Self-Determination Act of 1996”; and  
37 **WHEREAS**, It is altogether fitting and proper to urge the President and  
38 Congress of the United States to enact the “CARE for Kids Act of  
39 2019,” to automatically provide free school meals to American  
40 children who are being raised by grandparents or relatives other  
41 than their parents; now, therefore,  
42  
43 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the General Assembly of the State of New*  
44 *Jersey:*

**EXPLANATION** – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined **thus** is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

<sup>1</sup>Assembly AED committee amendments adopted August 10, 2020.

**AR169 [1R] VAINIERI HUTTLE, JASEY**

3

1       1. This House urges the President and Congress of the United  
2 States to enact the “CARE for Kids Act of 2019,” to provide  
3 automatic eligibility for free school meals to American children  
4 who are being raised by grandparents or relatives other than their  
5 parents.

6  
7       2. Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of State,  
8 shall be transmitted by the Clerk of the General Assembly to the  
9 President of the United States, Majority and Minority Leaders of the  
10 United States Senate, to the Speaker and Minority Leader of the  
11 United States House of Representatives, and to each member of the  
12 United States Congress elected from this State.