

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 104

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED DECEMBER 14, 2020

Sponsored by:

Senator MICHAEL L. TESTA, JR.

District 1 (Atlantic, Cape May and Cumberland)

Senator KRISTIN M. CORRADO

District 40 (Bergen, Essex, Morris and Passaic)

SYNOPSIS

Urges high schools to include information concerning apprenticeship programs in events and resources provided to help students develop postsecondary plans.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/14/2020)

1 **A SENATE RESOLUTION** urging high schools to include information
2 concerning apprenticeship programs in the events and resources
3 provided to help students develop their postsecondary plans.

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5 **WHEREAS**, As high school students approach graduation, it is
6 important for them to explore the numerous opportunities that await
7 them upon completion of their secondary education; and

8 **WHEREAS**, While many students decide to enroll in baccalaureate
9 programs, students also have the option to attend community
10 college or trade school, join the military, pursue volunteer
11 opportunities, look for a job, start their own business, or become an
12 apprentice; and

13 **WHEREAS**, Apprenticeship programs allow employers to develop and
14 prepare members of their future workforce while providing
15 individuals the opportunity to earn income, develop specialized job
16 skills, receive classroom instruction, and be mentored by industry
17 professionals; and

18 **WHEREAS**, Apprenticeship programs also provide affordable pathways
19 to high-paying jobs and careers without the need to incur the
20 amounts of students debt typically associated with enrollment at a
21 college or university; and

22 **WHEREAS**, Career seekers can find apprenticeships in industries such
23 as information technology, finance and business, healthcare,
24 hospitality, transportation, and manufacturing; and

25 **WHEREAS**, Demand for workers in various skilled trades remains high
26 while an insufficient number of available workers remains low,
27 resulting in attractive wages and opportunities for those who
28 complete an apprenticeship program; and

29 **WHEREAS**, To help students decide which career pathways are best for
30 them, high schools hold events and provide resources that allow
31 students to better understand their own interests, explore careers
32 that align with those interests, and determine how to acquire the
33 necessary education to enter into those careers; however, these
34 events and resources often favor academic programs while
35 overlooking the viability of apprenticeship programs; and

36 **WHEREAS**, Information concerning apprenticeship programs should be
37 included in these events and resources in order to help students
38 understand the options available to them after graduation; now,
39 therefore,

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41 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the Senate of the State of New Jersey:*

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43 1. This House urges high schools across the State to include
44 information concerning apprenticeship programs in the events and
45 resources provided to help students develop their postsecondary
46 plans.

1 2. Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of State,
2 shall be transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to the
3 Commissioner of Education, the Secretary of Higher Education, the
4 State Board of Education, the New Jersey School Counselor
5 Association, and the New Jersey Chamber of Commerce.

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8 STATEMENT
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10 This resolution urges high schools across the State to include
11 information concerning apprenticeship programs in the events and
12 resources provided to help students develop their postsecondary
13 plans. As high school students approach graduation, it is important
14 for them to explore the numerous opportunities that await them
15 upon completion of their secondary education. While many
16 students decide to enroll in baccalaureate programs, students also
17 have the option to attend community college or trade school, join
18 the military, pursue volunteer opportunities, look for a job, start
19 their own business, or become an apprentice. Apprenticeship
20 programs allow employers to develop and prepare members of their
21 future workforce while providing individuals the opportunity to
22 earn income, develop certain job skills, receive classroom
23 instruction, and be mentored by industry professionals. These
24 programs also help provide an affordable pathway to high-paying
25 jobs and careers without incurring the kind of student debt typically
26 associated with enrollment at a college or university. To help
27 students create their postsecondary plans, high schools hold events
28 such as college and career fairs, and provide resources that allow
29 students to better understand their own interests, explore careers
30 that align with those interests, and determine how to acquire the
31 necessary education to enter into those careers. However, these
32 events and resources often favor academic programs while
33 overlooking the viability of apprenticeship programs. By giving
34 students the means to better inform themselves of all their
35 postsecondary choices, our schools can have a role in helping them
36 find successful and rewarding careers after high school.