

# SENATE, No. 2227

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 216th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 16, 2014

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator M. TERESA RUIZ**

**District 29 (Essex)**

**Senator STEPHEN M. SWEENEY**

**District 3 (Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Senators Turner and Allen**

**SYNOPSIS**

Provides that if a career and technical education program of a county vocational school district is taught in an industry setting, off-site location will be exempt from certain State regulations.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 9/19/2014)**

1 AN ACT concerning county vocational school districts and  
2 supplementing chapter 54 of Title 18A of the New Jersey  
3 Statutes.

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

7  
8 1. The Legislature finds and declares that:

9 a. The economic prosperity of New Jersey depends on a strong  
10 pipeline of workers with the academic, technical, and career  
11 readiness skills to fill current and future jobs;

12 b. Expanding access to career and technical education and  
13 engaging employers in the development and delivery of technical  
14 education are crucial for the State's economic growth and critical  
15 strategies for keeping New Jersey competitive in the global  
16 economy;

17 c. While almost 32,000 full-time and shared-time students are  
18 currently enrolled at New Jersey's county vocational school  
19 districts, the demand for a career and technical education exceeds  
20 the space available at most schools;

21 d. On a Statewide basis, county vocational school districts  
22 receive nearly 2.5 applications for each available space, and in  
23 some counties, and for certain programs, the demand is much  
24 greater. In 2013, roughly 16,700 students seeking career and  
25 technical education programs were not able to be accommodated;

26 e. Given the immediate shortage of space for career and  
27 technical education program expansion, employers can play a  
28 significant role in helping to meet short-term needs by hosting  
29 career and technical education programs in an industry setting and  
30 offering work-based learning opportunities for students;

31 f. This type of public-private partnership is a desirable  
32 mechanism to address the needed expansion of career and technical  
33 education programs and would give students access to equipment  
34 and technology that is expensive or difficult to replicate in public  
35 school district settings; and

36 g. In order to facilitate this worthwhile partnership, career and  
37 technical education programs taught in industry settings should be  
38 exempted from certain unnecessarily restrictive State regulations.

39  
40 2. a. Notwithstanding the provisions of any law or regulation  
41 to the contrary, in the case of a career and technical education  
42 program of a county vocational school district taught at a location  
43 other than the county vocational school district:

44 (1) The educational facility standards for new construction  
45 pursuant to N.J.A.C.6A:26-6.3 shall not apply to the location at  
46 which the career and technical education program is taught;

1 (2) The location at which the career and technical education  
2 program is taught shall not require approval as a temporary facility  
3 pursuant to N.J.A.C.6A:26-8.1; and

4 (3) The long range facilities plan of the county vocational  
5 school district shall not be required to take into consideration any  
6 career and technical education programs taught at a location other  
7 than the county vocational school district.

8 b. The location at which the career and technical education  
9 program is taught shall meet the requirements of the uniform  
10 construction code and all applicable health and safety standards.

11

12 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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#### STATEMENT

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17 Career and technical education programs of county vocational  
18 school districts are crucial to the economic growth of New Jersey,  
19 but there is currently a shortage of space for all students wishing to  
20 enroll in these types of programs. An important mechanism which  
21 has been identified for expanding access to these programs is to  
22 teach them in industry settings. In order to encourage this type of  
23 public-private partnership whereby the career and technical  
24 education program is taught, not on the campus of the county  
25 vocational school district, but in industry settings, this bill provides  
26 that:

27 a. The educational facility standards for new construction  
28 pursuant to N.J.A.C.6A:26-6.3 will not apply to the off-site location  
29 at which the career and technical program is taught;

30 b. The off-site location at which the career and technical  
31 program is taught will not require approval as a temporary facility  
32 pursuant to N.J.A.C.6A:26-8.1; and

33 c. The long range facilities plan of the county vocational  
34 school district will not be required to take into consideration any  
35 career and technical education programs taught at off-site locations.

36 The bill provides, however, that the off-site location must meet  
37 the requirements of the uniform construction code and all applicable  
38 health and safety standards.