

ASSEMBLY, No. 2769

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 13, 2020

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman JOANN DOWNEY

District 11 (Monmouth)

Assemblyman ERIC HOUGHTALING

District 11 (Monmouth)

Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE

District 37 (Bergen)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman Sumter and Assemblyman Danielsen

SYNOPSIS

Requires State Employment and Training Commission member to specialize in serving transgender communities.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/24/2021)

1 AN ACT concerning the State Employment and Training
2 Commission and amending P.L.1989, c.293.

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

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7 1. Section 6 of P.L.1989, c.293 (C.34:15C-3) is amended to
8 read as follows:

9 6. The commission shall consist of the following members: the
10 Governor, the Commissioners of Community Affairs, Education,
11 Human Services, and Labor and Workforce Development, the Chief
12 Executive Officer of the New Jersey Economic Development
13 Authority, and the Secretary of Higher Education, all of whom shall
14 serve ex officio; one member of the Senate appointed by the
15 Governor, as recommended by the President of the Senate to serve
16 during the two-year legislative session in which the appointment is
17 made; one member of the General Assembly appointed by the
18 Governor, as recommended by the Speaker of the General
19 Assembly to serve during the two-year legislative session in which
20 the appointment is made; and a number of public members as
21 determined by the Governor pursuant to section 3111 of the
22 "Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act," (29 U.S.C. s.3111).
23 The public members shall be appointed by the Governor with the
24 advice and consent of the Senate for terms of three years, except
25 that of the public members first appointed by the Governor, not less
26 than 30% shall be appointed for three years, not less than 30% shall
27 be appointed for two years, and the others shall be appointed for
28 one year. Not more than half of the members appointed by the
29 Governor shall be of the same political party. Of the public
30 members appointed by the Governor, not less than five shall be
31 representatives of labor organizations nominated by a State-wide
32 labor federation, and not less than three shall be representatives of
33 community-based organizations. One of the public members
34 appointed by the Governor shall specialize in serving transgender
35 communities. One of the members appointed by the Governor
36 pursuant to section 3111 of the "Workforce Innovation and
37 Opportunity Act," (29 U.S.C. s.3111) to represent business on the
38 commission shall be a representative of the New Jersey Business
39 and Industry Association. The composition of the commission shall
40 be consistent with the composition required for a State workforce
41 development board pursuant to section 3111 of the "Workforce
42 Innovation and Opportunity Act," (29 U.S.C. s.3111). Each
43 member shall hold office for the term of appointment and until his
44 successor is appointed and qualified. A member appointed to fill a
45 vacancy occurring in the membership of the board for any reason

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.

1 other than the expiration of the term shall have a term of
2 appointment for the unexpired term only. All vacancies shall be
3 filled in the same manner as the original appointment. A member
4 may be appointed for any number of successive terms. Any member
5 appointed by the Governor may be removed from office by the
6 Governor, for cause, after a hearing and may be suspended by the
7 Governor pending the completion of the hearing. Members of the
8 board shall serve without compensation, but shall be reimbursed for
9 necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties as
10 members. Action may be taken and motions and resolutions may be
11 adopted by the board at a board meeting by an affirmative vote of a
12 majority of the members. The Governor shall select a chairperson
13 who shall be a nongovernmental member of the commission.
14 Advanced notification for, and copies of the minutes of, each
15 meeting of the commission shall be filed with the Governor, the
16 President of the Senate and the Speaker of the General Assembly.
17 (cf: P.L.2019, c.249, s.1)

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19 2. This act shall take effect 180 days after enactment.

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STATEMENT

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24 This bill requires a member of the State Employment and
25 Training Commission to specialize in serving transgender
26 communities. This implements a recommendation on employment
27 from the report of the New Jersey Transgender Equality Task Force.

28 Some studies have consistently found high rates of employment
29 discrimination against transgender individuals and high rates of
30 unemployment among transgender people, with higher rates for
31 transgender people of color. Employment discrimination can lead
32 transgender people to work in underground economies, which can
33 compound the effects of employment discrimination as well as
34 create issues with securing housing. Data from the 2015 United
35 States Transgender Survey found that in New Jersey, 16 percent of
36 transgender people had lost a job because of their gender identity or
37 expression, 26 percent reported that they had been fired, not hired,
38 or denied a promotion because of their gender identity or
39 expression. This bill would ensure that strategies to enhance
40 employment opportunities would also serve transgender
41 populations.