

[First Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 5752

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MAY 12, 2021

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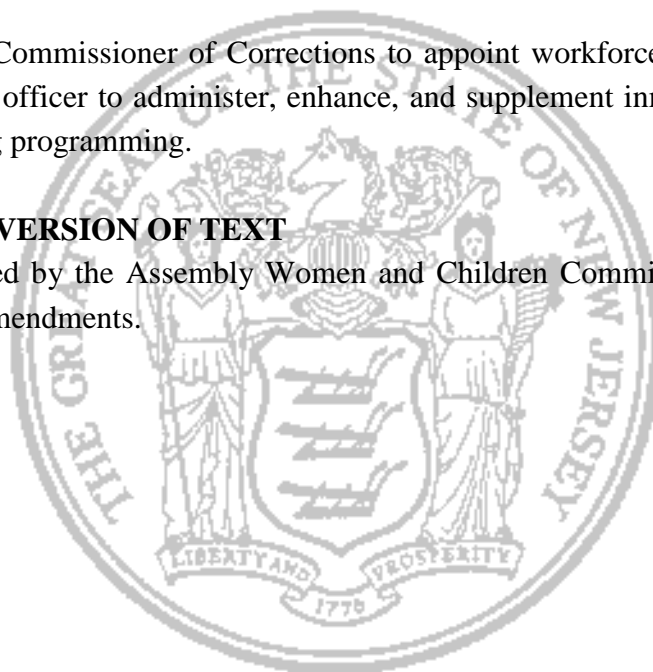
Assemblywoman Lopez, Assemblyman Karabinchak, Assemblywomen Reynolds-Jackson, Jasey and Vainieri Huttie

SYNOPSIS

Requires Commissioner of Corrections to appoint workforce skills training development officer to administer, enhance, and supplement inmate workforce skills training programming.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Assembly Women and Children Committee on June 9, 2021, with amendments.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/21/2021)

1 AN ACT concerning inmate workforce skills training and amending
2 P.L.2009, c.330.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

6
7 1. Section 1 of P.L. 2009, c.330 (C.30:4-92.1) is amended to
8 read as follows:

9 1. The Commissioner of Corrections, in consultation with the
10 Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development, shall
11 establish a mandatory workforce skills training program in each
12 State correctional facility under the jurisdiction of the Department
13 of Corrections. The program shall be administered by a workforce
14 skills training development officer who shall be appointed by the
15 Commissioner of Corrections to enhance and supplement the
16 workforce skills training programming currently available to
17 inmates in each State correctional facility. In administering the
18 mandatory workforce training program in each State Correctional
19 facility, the workforce skills training development officer shall:

20 (1) improve upon the facility's most successful workforce skills
21 training program offerings as determined by the rate of enrollment
22 and completion of the programs;

23 (2) introduce new workforce skills training program offerings to
24 inmates of the facility; and

25 (3) provide workforce skills training programming, to be
26 modified as needed, which is consistent with actual post-release
27 employment opportunities and reflects the State's emerging industry
28 and business workforce needs.

29 a. The requirement of participating in a workforce skills
30 training program shall apply to an inmate who:

31 (1) is in the custody of the Department of Corrections on the
32 effective date of P.L.2009, c.330 (C.30:4-92.1 et al.);

33 (2) has 18 months or more remaining to be served before a
34 mandatory release date; and

35 (3) is not exempted due to a medical, developmental, or learning
36 disability.

37 b. The mandatory workforce skills training program
38 requirement may be deferred for an inmate who is serving a
39 sentence exceeding 10 years.

40 c. The workforce skills training program shall contain a
41 computer literacy component, including instruction on word
42 processing, typing, Internet navigation, and use of e-mail.

43 d. An inmate who satisfactorily participates in the mandatory
44 workforce skills training program shall be eligible for commutation
45 time for good behavior pursuant to R.S.30:4-140 or credits for

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:

¹Assembly AWC committee amendments adopted June 9, 2021.

1 diligent application to work and other institutional assignments
2 pursuant to R.S.30:4-92.

3 e. The commissioner shall report to the State Parole Board the
4 progress of an inmate participating in the mandatory workforce
5 skills training program.

6 f. The commissioner, in consultation with the workforce skills
7 training development officer and the Commissioner of Labor and
8 Workforce Development, shall promulgate, pursuant to the
9 "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et
10 seq.) the rules and regulations that are necessary to implement the
11 provisions of P.L.2009, c.330 (C.30:4-92.1 et al.). These rules and
12 regulations shall include, but not be limited to, provisions to:

13 (1) determine when an inmate shall be exempted from the
14 mandatory workforce skills training requirement due to a medical,
15 developmental, or learning disability as authorized under paragraph
16 (3) of subsection a. of this section; and

17 (2) authorize these exempted inmates to voluntarily participate
18 in the mandatory workforce skills training program.

19 g. In order to administer, enhance, and supplement the
20 workforce skills training programming available at a State
21 correctional facility in accordance with this section, the workforce
22 skills training development officer, on a regular basis but not less
23 than once per year, shall meet with a representative of the New
24 Jersey Business and Industry Association, ¹the New Jersey Chamber
25 of Commerce,¹ the New Jersey State Building and Construction
26 Trades Council, and the New Jersey Council of County Vocational-
27 Technical Schools.

28 (cf: P.L.2009, c.330, s.1)

29

30 2. This act shall take effect on the first day of the third month
31 next following the day of enactment.