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[First Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 4327

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
213th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED DECEMBER 3, 2009

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman PAMELA R. LAMPITT

District 6 (Camden)

Assemblyman ALBERT COUTINHO

District 29 (Essex and Union)

Assemblywoman ELEASE EVANS

District 35 (Bergen and Passaic)

Co-Sponsored by:

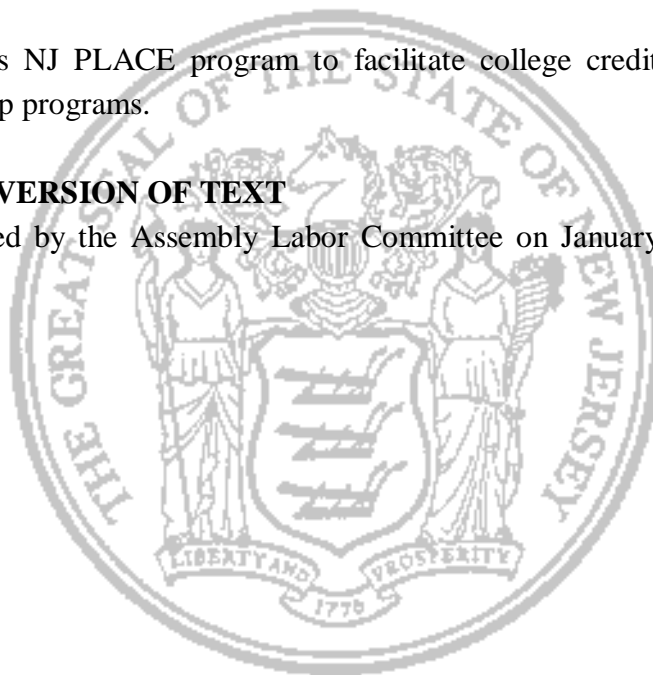
**Assemblymen Egan, Prieto, Schaer, Assemblywoman Greenstein, Senators
Madden, Baroni, S.Kean and Turner**

SYNOPSIS

Establishes NJ PLACE program to facilitate college credit for registered apprenticeship programs.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Assembly Labor Committee on January 4, 2010, with amendments.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 1/12/2010)

1 AN ACT establishing the NJ PLACE program, amending P.L.2007,
2 c.175 and supplementing P.L.1992, c.43 (C.34:15D-1 et seq.).
3

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

7 1. (New section) a. There is established, in the Department of
8 Labor and Workforce Development ¹and under the direction of the
9 State Employment and Training Commission as part of the
10 commission's responsibilities pursuant to subsection d. of section 9
11 of P.L.1989, c.293 (C.34:15C-6)¹, the New Jersey Pathways
12 Leading Apprentices to a College Education, or "NJ PLACE",
13 program. The purpose of the program is to facilitate cooperation
14 between appropriate State agencies, employer organizations, labor
15 organizations, schools, and two-year and four-year institutions of
16 higher education to enter into agreements to provide college credit
17 in connection with apprenticeship programs and permit the work of
18 apprentices in those programs to be credited towards two-year and
19 four-year college degrees. To implement its purpose, the program
20 shall continue the current process of negotiations between county
21 colleges and other institutions of higher education, employer
22 organizations, labor organizations and State agencies which has
23 resulted in the establishment of an associate in applied science in
24 technical studies degree program into which credits are transferred
25 for the time spent by apprentices in classroom and non-classroom
26 apprenticeship training and education. While most of these existing
27 articulation agreements establishing transfer credits are between
28 county colleges and construction trade apprenticeships, the NJ
29 PLACE program shall work to facilitate agreements involving
30 additional apprenticeship programs outside, as well as inside, of the
31 construction industry and involving four-year, as well as two-year,
32 college degrees.

33 b. The NJ PLACE program shall coordinate its efforts to
34 promote apprenticeship programs and related higher education with
35 the efforts of the "Youth Transitions to Work Partnership Act,"
36 created pursuant to P.L.1993, c.268 (C.34:15E-1 et al.) and
37 consortia of businesses, business organizations, labor organizations
38 and educational institutions funded by that partnership to link newly
39 established and existing apprenticeship programs with secondary
40 schools and institutions of higher education to provide effective
41 transitions for high school graduates into those programs.

42 c. ¹**[The current level of appropriations]** The State
43 Employment and Training Commission is authorized to obtain,
44 accept and utilize resources¹ for the NJ PLACE program ¹**[during**

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 ALA committee amendments adopted January 4, 2010.

1 fiscal year 2010 shall be continued in subsequent years. Those
2 appropriations shall continue to be drawn] as may be, or may
3 become, available¹ from appropriate 'State, federal and non-
4 governmental¹ sources of funding for employment, training and
5 educational purposes, including the Workforce Development
6 Partnership Fund created pursuant to section 9 of P.L.1992, c.43
7 (C.34:15D-9), the "Supplemental Workforce Fund for Basic Skills"
8 established pursuant to section 1 of P.L.2001, c.152 (C.34:15D-21)
9 ¹, or funds available pursuant to the Workforce Investment Act of
10 1998, Pub.L. 105-220 (29 U.S.C. s.2801 et seq.)¹.

11 d. For the purposes of this section, "apprenticeship program"
12 means a registered apprenticeship program providing to each trainee
13 combined classroom and on-the-job training under the direct and
14 close supervision of a highly skilled worker in an occupation
15 recognized as an apprenticeable trade, registered by the Office of
16 Apprenticeship of the U.S. Department of Labor, and meeting the
17 standards established by the office.

18

19 2. Section 1 of P.L.2007, c.175 (C.18A:62-46) is amended to
20 read as follows:

21 1. Each public institution of higher education, in consultation
22 with the New Jersey Commission on Higher Education and the New
23 Jersey Presidents' Council, shall establish and enter into a collective
24 Statewide transfer agreement that provides for the seamless transfer
25 of academic credits to a baccalaureate degree program from a
26 completed associate of arts **[or]** degree program, a completed
27 associate of science degree program **[to a baccalaureate degree**
28 **program]**, or a completed associate in applied science in technical
29 studies degree program which has credits transferred by the NJ
30 PLACE program from apprenticeship programs. The transfer
31 agreement shall include:

32 a. a listing of the general education core courses as stipulated
33 by the Presidents' Council;

34 b. policies and procedures for the seamless transfer and
35 application of academic credits to a baccalaureate degree program
36 from a completed associate degree program **[to a baccalaureate**
37 **degree program]**, including a guarantee that an associate of arts
38 degree, **[or an]** associate of science degree, or associate in applied
39 science in technical studies degree which has credits transferred by
40 the NJ PLACE program from apprenticeship programs, awarded by
41 a county college established pursuant to chapter 64A of Title 18A
42 of the New Jersey Statutes shall be fully transferable and credited as
43 the first two years of a baccalaureate degree program at the four-
44 year public institution of higher education in the State to which a
45 student is admitted;

1 c. policies and procedures for the implementation of an appeals
2 process for students and institutions to resolve disputes regarding
3 the transfer of academic credits;

4 d. policies and procedures for the annual review and update of
5 the agreement; and

6 e. policies and procedures for the collection of data by the
7 commission to ensure that all participating institutions of higher
8 education are in compliance with the provisions of this act and to
9 ensure that the agreement is fostering both a seamless transfer
10 process and the academic success of transfer students at the senior
11 institutions. The commission shall annually determine the data to
12 be collected and shall notify each participating institution in a
13 timely manner.

14 The policies and procedures set forth in the transfer agreement
15 shall be fully operational by September 1, 2008¹, except that, with
16 respect to associate in applied science in technical studies degree
17 programs which have credits transferred by the NJ PLACE program
18 from apprenticeship programs, the transfer agreement shall be fully
19 operational by September 1, 2011¹.

20 (cf: P.L.2007, c.175, s.1)

21

22 3. Section 2 of P.L.2007, c.175 (C.18A:62-47) is amended to
23 read as follows:

24 2. On or before January 1, 2008, each public institution of
25 higher education shall, in consultation with the Commission on
26 Higher Education and the Presidents' Council, develop and adopt as
27 part of the collective Statewide transfer agreement established
28 pursuant to section 1 of this act policies and procedures for the
29 transfer of credits earned by a student who has not completed his
30 associate degree program prior to transferring into a baccalaureate
31 degree program¹, except that, with respect to associate in applied
32 science in technical studies degree programs which have credits
33 transferred by the NJ PLACE program from apprenticeship
34 programs, those policies and procedures shall be developed and
35 adopted on or before January 1, 2011¹.

36 (cf: P.L.2007, c.175, s.2)

37

38 ¹[3.] 4.¹ This act shall take effect immediately.

ASSEMBLY, No. 4327

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 213th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED DECEMBER 3, 2009

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman PAMELA R. LAMPITT
District 6 (Camden)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblyman Egan

SYNOPSIS

Establishes NJ PLACE program to facilitate college credit for registered apprenticeship programs.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/8/2009)

A4327 LAMPITT

2

1 AN ACT establishing the NJ PLACE program, amending P.L.2007,
2 c.175 and supplementing P.L.1992, c.43 (C.34:15D-1 et seq.).

3

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

6

7 1. (New section) a. There is established, in the Department of
8 Labor and Workforce Development, the New Jersey Pathways
9 Leading Apprentices to a College Education, or “NJ PLACE”,
10 program. The purpose of the program is to facilitate cooperation
11 between appropriate State agencies, employer organizations, labor
12 organizations, schools, and two-year and four-year institutions of
13 higher education to enter into agreements to provide college credit
14 in connection with apprenticeship programs and permit the work of
15 apprentices in those programs to be credited towards two-year and
16 four-year college degrees. To implement its purpose, the program
17 shall continue the current process of negotiations between county
18 colleges and other institutions of higher education, employer
19 organizations, labor organizations and State agencies which has
20 resulted in the establishment of an associate in applied science in
21 technical studies degree program into which credits are transferred
22 for the time spent by apprentices in classroom and non-classroom
23 apprenticeship training and education. While most of these existing
24 articulation agreements establishing transfer credits are between
25 county colleges and construction trade apprenticeships, the NJ
26 PLACE program shall work to facilitate agreements involving
27 additional apprenticeship programs outside, as well as inside, of the
28 construction industry and involving four-year, as well as two-year,
29 college degrees.

30 b. The NJ PLACE program shall coordinate its efforts to
31 promote apprenticeship programs and related higher education with
32 the efforts of the “Youth Transitions to Work Partnership Act,”
33 created pursuant to P.L.1993, c.268 (C.34:15E-1 et al.) and
34 consortia of businesses, business organizations, labor organizations
35 and educational institutions funded by that partnership to link newly
36 established and existing apprenticeship programs with secondary
37 schools and institutions of higher education to provide effective
38 transitions for high school graduates into those programs.

39 c. The current level of appropriations for the NJ PLACE
40 program during fiscal year 2010 shall be continued in subsequent
41 years. Those appropriations shall continue to be drawn from
42 appropriate sources of funding for employment, training and
43 educational purposes, including the Workforce Development
44 Partnership Fund created pursuant to section 9 of P.L.1992, c.43

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 (C.34:15D-9), the “Supplemental Workforce Fund for Basic Skills”
2 established pursuant to section 1 of P.L.2001, c.152 (C.34:15D-21).

3 d. For the purposes of this section, "apprenticeship program"
4 means a registered apprenticeship program providing to each trainee
5 combined classroom and on-the-job training under the direct and
6 close supervision of a highly skilled worker in an occupation
7 recognized as an apprenticeable trade, registered by the Office of
8 Apprenticeship of the U.S. Department of Labor, and meeting the
9 standards established by the office.

10
11 2. Section 1 of P.L.2007, c.175 (C.18A:62-46) is amended to
12 read as follows:

13 1. Each public institution of higher education, in consultation
14 with the New Jersey Commission on Higher Education and the New
15 Jersey Presidents' Council, shall establish and enter into a collective
16 Statewide transfer agreement that provides for the seamless transfer
17 of academic credits to a baccalaureate degree program from a
18 completed associate of arts **[or]** degree program, a completed
19 associate of science degree program **[to a baccalaureate degree**
20 **program]**, or a completed associate in applied science in technical
21 studies degree program which has credits transferred by the NJ
22 PLACE program from apprenticeship programs. The transfer
23 agreement shall include:

24 a. a listing of the general education core courses as stipulated
25 by the Presidents' Council;

26 b. policies and procedures for the seamless transfer and
27 application of academic credits to a baccalaureate degree program
28 from a completed associate degree program **[to a baccalaureate**
29 **degree program]**, including a guarantee that an associate of arts
30 degree, **[or an]** associate of science degree, or associate in applied
31 science in technical studies degree which has credits transferred by
32 the NJ PLACE program from apprenticeship programs, awarded by
33 a county college established pursuant to chapter 64A of Title 18A
34 of the New Jersey Statutes shall be fully transferable and credited as
35 the first two years of a baccalaureate degree program at the four-
36 year public institution of higher education in the State to which a
37 student is admitted;

38 c. policies and procedures for the implementation of an appeals
39 process for students and institutions to resolve disputes regarding
40 the transfer of academic credits;

41 d. policies and procedures for the annual review and update of
42 the agreement; and

43 e. policies and procedures for the collection of data by the
44 commission to ensure that all participating institutions of higher
45 education are in compliance with the provisions of this act and to
46 ensure that the agreement is fostering both a seamless transfer
47 process and the academic success of transfer students at the senior

1 institutions. The commission shall annually determine the data to
2 be collected and shall notify each participating institution in a
3 timely manner.

4 The policies and procedures set forth in the transfer agreement
5 shall be fully operational by September 1, 2008.

6 (cf: P.L.2007, c.175, s.1)

7

8 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

9

10

11

STATEMENT

12

13 The bill establishes the New Jersey Pathways Leading
14 Apprentices to a College Education, or "NJ PLACE," program for
15 the purpose of assisting State agencies, employer organizations,
16 labor organizations, schools, and two-year and four-year institutions
17 of higher education to enter into agreements to provide college
18 credit in connection with apprenticeship programs and permit the
19 work of apprentices in those programs to be credited towards two-
20 year and four-year college degrees.

21 The bill directs the NJ PLACE program to continue the current
22 process of negotiations between county colleges and other
23 institutions of higher education, employer and labor organizations,
24 and State agencies which has resulted in the establishment of an
25 associate in applied science in technical studies degree program into
26 which credits are transferred for the time spent by apprentices in
27 classroom and non-classroom apprenticeship training and
28 education. While most of these existing articulation agreements
29 establishing transfer credits are between county colleges and
30 construction trade apprenticeships, the bill requires the NJ PLACE
31 program to work to facilitate agreements involving additional
32 apprenticeship programs both outside and inside of the construction
33 industry and involving four-year and two-year college degrees.

34 The bill also directs the NJ PLACE program to coordinate its
35 efforts with the efforts of the Youth Transitions to Work
36 Partnership and partnership-funded consortia of businesses,
37 business organizations, labor organizations and educational
38 institutions to link newly established and existing apprenticeship
39 programs with secondary schools and institutions of higher
40 education to provide effective transitions for high school graduates
41 into those programs.

42 The bill requires public institutions of higher education to treat
43 each NJ PLACE associate in applied science degree program in the
44 same manner as an associate of arts or associate of science degree
45 program is treated pursuant to P.L.2007, c.175 (C.18A:62-46 et
46 seq.) with respect to agreements for the transfer of academic credits
47 and the recognition of those credits towards four-year degree
48 programs.

A4327 LAMPITT

5

1 Finally, the bill provides that the current level of appropriations
2 for the NJ PLACE program during fiscal year 2010 be continued in
3 subsequent years.

ASSEMBLY LABOR COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 4327

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JANUARY 4, 2010

The Assembly Labor Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Assembly Bill No. 4327.

The bill establishes the New Jersey Pathways Leading Apprentices to a College Education, or “NJ PLACE,” program for the purpose of assisting State agencies, employer organizations, labor organizations, schools, and two-year and four-year institutions of higher education to enter into agreements to provide college credit in connection with apprenticeship programs and permit the work of apprentices in those programs to be credited towards two-year and four-year college degrees.

The bill directs the NJ PLACE program to continue the current process of negotiations between county colleges and other institutions of higher education, employer and labor organizations, and State agencies which has resulted in the establishment of an associate in applied science in technical studies degree program into which credits are transferred for the time spent by apprentices in classroom and non-classroom apprenticeship training and education. While most of these existing articulation agreements establishing transfer credits are between county colleges and construction trade apprenticeships, the bill requires the NJ PLACE program to work to facilitate agreements involving additional apprenticeship programs both outside and inside of the construction industry and involving four-year and two-year college degrees.

The bill also directs the NJ PLACE program to coordinate its efforts with the efforts of the Youth Transitions to Work Partnership and partnership-funded consortia of businesses, business organizations, labor organizations and educational institutions to link newly established and existing apprenticeship programs with secondary schools and institutions of higher education to provide effective transitions for high school graduates into those programs.

The bill requires public institutions of higher education to treat each NJ PLACE associate in applied science degree program in the same manner as an associate of arts or associate of science degree program is treated pursuant to P.L.2007, c.175 (C.18A:62-46 et seq.)

with respect to agreements for the transfer of academic credits and the recognition of those credits towards four-year degree programs.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

The amendments adopted by the committee indicate that the program is under the direction of the State Employment and Training Commission, and authorize the commission to obtain, accept and utilize resources for the program from available appropriate State, federal and non-governmental sources. The amendments remove the provision requiring that the current level of appropriation for the NJ PLACE program during fiscal year 2010 be continued in subsequent years.

Finally, the amendments also provide that the academic transfer agreements for the program be developed and adopted by January 1, 2011 and operational by September 1, 2011.

SENATE, No. 3093

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
213th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED NOVEMBER 23, 2009

Sponsored by:

Senator FRED H. MADDEN, JR.
District 4 (Camden and Gloucester)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senator S.Kean

SYNOPSIS

Establishes NJ PLACE program to facilitate college credit for registered apprenticeship programs.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/11/2009)

S3093 MADDEN

2

1 AN ACT establishing the NJ PLACE program, amending P.L.2007,
2 c.175 and supplementing P.L.1992, c.43 (C.34:15D-1 et seq.).

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

6
7 1. (New section) a. There is established, in the Department of
8 Labor and Workforce Development, the New Jersey Pathways
9 Leading Apprentices to a College Education, or “NJ PLACE”,
10 program. The purpose of the program is to facilitate cooperation
11 between appropriate State agencies, employer organizations, labor
12 organizations, schools, and two-year and four-year institutions of
13 higher education to enter into agreements to provide college credit
14 in connection with apprenticeship programs and permit the work of
15 apprentices in those programs to be credited towards two-year and
16 four-year college degrees. To implement its purpose, the program
17 shall continue the current process of negotiations between county
18 colleges and other institutions of higher education, employer
19 organizations, labor organizations and State agencies which has
20 resulted in the establishment of an associate in applied science in
21 technical studies degree program into which credits are transferred
22 for the time spent by apprentices in classroom and non-classroom
23 apprenticeship training and education. While most of these existing
24 articulation agreements establishing transfer credits are between
25 county colleges and construction trade apprenticeships, the NJ
26 PLACE program shall work to facilitate agreements involving
27 additional apprenticeship programs outside, as well as inside, of the
28 construction industry and involving four-year, as well as two-year,
29 college degrees.

30 b. The NJ PLACE program shall coordinate its efforts to
31 promote apprenticeship programs and related higher education with
32 the efforts of the “Youth Transitions to Work Partnership Act,”
33 created pursuant to P.L.1993, c.268 (C.34:15E-1 et al.) and
34 consortia of businesses, business organizations, labor organizations
35 and educational institutions funded by that partnership to link newly
36 established and existing apprenticeship programs with secondary
37 schools and institutions of higher education to provide effective
38 transitions for high school graduates into those programs.

39 c. The current level of appropriations for the NJ PLACE
40 program during fiscal year 2010 shall be continued in subsequent
41 years. Those appropriations shall continue to be drawn from
42 appropriate sources of funding for employment, training and
43 educational purposes, including the Workforce Development
44 Partnership Fund created pursuant to section 9 of P.L.1992, c.43
45 (C.34:15D-9), the “Supplemental Workforce Fund for Basic Skills”

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.

S3093 MADDEN

1 established pursuant to section 1 of P.L.2001, c.152 (C.34:15D-21).

2 d. For the purposes of this section, "apprenticeship program"
3 means a registered apprenticeship program providing to each trainee
4 combined classroom and on-the-job training under the direct and
5 close supervision of a highly skilled worker in an occupation
6 recognized as an apprenticeable trade, registered by the Office of
7 Apprenticeship of the U.S. Department of Labor, and meeting the
8 standards established by the office.

9
10 2. Section 1 of P.L.2007, c.175 (C.18A:62-46) is amended to
11 read as follows:

12 1. Each public institution of higher education, in consultation
13 with the New Jersey Commission on Higher Education and the New
14 Jersey Presidents' Council, shall establish and enter into a collective
15 Statewide transfer agreement that provides for the seamless transfer
16 of academic credits to a baccalaureate degree program from a
17 completed associate of arts **[or]** degree program, a completed
18 associate of science degree program **[to a baccalaureate degree**
19 **program]**, or a completed associate in applied science in technical
20 studies degree program which has credits transferred by the NJ
21 PLACE program from apprenticeship programs. The transfer
22 agreement shall include:

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25 b. policies and procedures for the seamless transfer and
26 application of academic credits to a baccalaureate degree program
27 from a completed associate degree program **[to a baccalaureate**
28 **degree program]**, including a guarantee that an associate of arts
29 degree, **[or an]** associate of science degree, or associate in applied
30 science in technical studies degree which has credits transferred by
31 the NJ PLACE program from apprenticeship programs, awarded by
32 a county college established pursuant to chapter 64A of Title 18A
33 of the New Jersey Statutes shall be fully transferable and credited as
34 the first two years of a baccalaureate degree program at the four-
35 year public institution of higher education in the State to which a
36 student is admitted;

37 c. policies and procedures for the implementation of an appeals
38 process for students and institutions to resolve disputes regarding
39 the transfer of academic credits;

40 d. policies and procedures for the annual review and update of
41 the agreement; and

42 e. policies and procedures for the collection of data by the
43 commission to ensure that all participating institutions of higher
44 education are in compliance with the provisions of this act and to
45 ensure that the agreement is fostering both a seamless transfer
46 process and the academic success of transfer students at the senior
47 institutions. The commission shall annually determine the data to

1 be collected and shall notify each participating institution in a
2 timely manner.

3 The policies and procedures set forth in the transfer agreement
4 shall be fully operational by September 1, 2008.
5 (cf: P.L.2007, c.175, s.1)

6
7 3. This act shall take effect immediately.
8
9

10 STATEMENT
11

12 The bill establishes the New Jersey Pathways Leading
13 Apprentices to a College Education, or "NJ PLACE," program for
14 the purpose of assisting State agencies, employer organizations,
15 labor organizations, schools, and two-year and four-year institutions
16 of higher education to enter into agreements to provide college
17 credit in connection with apprenticeship programs and permit the
18 work of apprentices in those programs to be credited towards two-
19 year and four-year college degrees.

20 The bill directs the NJ PLACE program to continue the current
21 process of negotiations between county colleges and other
22 institutions of higher education, employer and labor organizations,
23 and State agencies which has resulted in the establishment of an
24 associate in applied science in technical studies degree program into
25 which credits are transferred for the time spent by apprentices in
26 classroom and non-classroom apprenticeship training and
27 education. While most of these existing articulation agreements
28 establishing transfer credits are between county colleges and
29 construction trade apprenticeships, the bill requires the NJ PLACE
30 program to work to facilitate agreements involving additional
31 apprenticeship programs both outside and inside of the construction
32 industry and involving four-year and two-year college degrees.

33 The bill also directs the NJ PLACE program to coordinate its
34 efforts with the efforts of the Youth Transitions to Work
35 Partnership and partnership-funded consortia of businesses,
36 business organizations, labor organizations and educational
37 institutions to link newly established and existing apprenticeship
38 programs with secondary schools and institutions of higher
39 education to provide effective transitions for high school graduates
40 into those programs.

41 The bill requires public institutions of higher education to treat
42 each NJ PLACE associate in applied science degree program in the
43 same manner as an associate of arts or associate of science degree
44 program is treated pursuant to P.L.2007, c.175 (C.18A:62-46 et
45 seq.) with respect to agreements for the transfer of academic credits
46 and the recognition of those credits towards four-year degree
47 programs.

S3093 MADDEN

5

1 Finally, the bill provides that the current level of appropriations
2 for the NJ PLACE program during fiscal year 2010 be continued in
3 subsequent years.

SENATE LABOR COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 3093

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: DECEMBER 10, 2009

The Senate Labor Committee reports favorably, and with committee amendments, Senate Bill No. 3093.

The bill establishes the New Jersey Pathways Leading Apprentices to a College Education, or “NJ PLACE,” program for the purpose of assisting State agencies, employer organizations, labor organizations, schools, and two-year and four-year institutions of higher education to enter into agreements to provide college credit in connection with apprenticeship programs and permit the work of apprentices in those programs to be credited towards two-year and four-year college degrees.

The bill directs the NJ PLACE program to continue the current process of negotiations between county colleges and other institutions of higher education, employer and labor organizations, and State agencies which has resulted in the establishment of an associate in applied science in technical studies degree program into which credits are transferred for the time spent by apprentices in classroom and non-classroom apprenticeship training and education. While most of these existing articulation agreements establishing transfer credits are between county colleges and construction trade apprenticeships, the bill requires the NJ PLACE program to work to facilitate agreements involving additional apprenticeship programs both outside and inside of the construction industry, and involving four-year and two-year college degrees.

The bill also directs the NJ PLACE program to coordinate its efforts with the efforts of the Youth Transitions to Work Partnership and partnership-funded consortia of businesses, business organizations, labor organizations and educational institutions to link newly established and existing apprenticeship programs with secondary schools and institutions of higher education to provide effective transitions for high school graduates into those programs.

The bill requires public institutions of higher education to treat each NJ PLACE associate in applied science in technical studies degree program in the same manner as an associate of arts or associate of science degree program is treated pursuant to P.L.2007, c.175

(C.18A:62-46 et seq.) with respect to agreements for the transfer of academic credits and the recognition of those credits towards four-year degree programs.

The committee amendments indicate that the program is under the direction of the State Employment and Training Commission, which is authorized by the bill to obtain, accept and utilize resources for the program from available appropriate State, federal and non-governmental sources. The amendments also provide that the academic transfer agreements for the program be developed and adopted by January 1, 2011 and operational by September 1, 2011.