

ASSEMBLY, No. 4212

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 9, 2022

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman ELIANA PINTOR MARIN

District 29 (Essex)

Assemblywoman VERLINA REYNOLDS-JACKSON

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

Assemblyman ANTHONY S. VERRELLI

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman Chaparro

SYNOPSIS

Establishes Center for Career Relevant Education and Talent Evaluation of New Jersey at Thomas Edison State University; appropriates \$2 million.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 10/17/2022)

1 AN ACT establishing the Center for Career Relevant Education and
2 Talent Evaluation of New Jersey, supplementing chapter 64 of
3 Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes, and making an
4 appropriation.

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

8
9 1. a. There is established at Thomas Edison State University
10 the Center for Career Relevant Education and Talent Evaluation of
11 New Jersey, also known as CreateNJ. The purpose of the center
12 shall be to maximize collaboration between institutions of higher
13 education and partner organizations that develop and implement
14 career pathways for nontraditional students and workers and
15 workforce development programs. The center shall be the State's
16 central resource to evaluate and translate learning into a validated
17 record of academic credit, career credentials, pre-apprenticeship and
18 apprenticeship credits, and pertinent knowledge, skills, and
19 abilities. The validated record developed by the center pursuant to
20 this section shall be known as the New Jersey Workforce
21 Transcript.

22 b. (1) The Center for Career Relevant Education and Talent
23 Evaluation of New Jersey shall establish a steering committee, the
24 purpose of which is to foster partnerships between government and
25 industry for the mapping of credentials and to contribute to the
26 direction and sustainability of the center. Members of the steering
27 committee shall serve in an advisory capacity only. The members
28 shall serve without compensation but may be reimbursed for
29 necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

30 (2) The steering committee shall be co-chaired by the President
31 of Thomas Edison State University and the Commissioner of Labor
32 and Workforce Development, or their designees. Other members of
33 the steering committee shall include, but need not be limited to,
34 representatives from the following:

35 (a) the Division of Consumer Affairs in the Department of Law
36 and Public Safety;

37 (b) the Office of the Secretary of Higher Education;

38 (c) the Department of Education;

39 (d) the New Jersey Council of County Colleges; and

40 (e) the New Jersey Business and Industry Association.

41 c. The Center for Career Relevant Education and Talent
42 Evaluation of New Jersey shall establish a database that houses all
43 of the skills or credits credentialed or accepted by Thomas Edison
44 State University or other participating institutions of higher
45 education pursuant to this section. The inclusion of an individual's
46 higher education credit equivalencies or identified skills in the
47 database shall be voluntary in nature, and participation shall be
48 indicated by informed consent. Thomas Edison State University

1 shall maintain the credits obtained through any evaluation of
2 learning pursuant to this section by following national best practices
3 and processes and by complying with applicable State and federal
4 laws and other guidelines and requirements for institutional
5 accreditation from the Middle States Commission on Higher
6 Education.

7 d. As permitted by law, Thomas Edison State University may
8 enter into contracts with public or private individuals,
9 organizations, and institutions necessary for the performance of its
10 duties pursuant to this section. The Center for Career Relevant
11 Education and Talent Evaluation of New Jersey shall apply for and
12 accept grant funds, or any other funds, to support the operations and
13 duties of the center, as made available by the federal government,
14 private foundations or entities, or any other sources.

15 e. Thomas Edison State University may hire such additional
16 staff as may be necessary to effectuate the provisions of this
17 section.

18 f. The Center for Career Relevant Education and Talent
19 Evaluation of New Jersey may collect fees from organizations using
20 approved credentials or professional learning assessments
21 maintained by Thomas Edison State University, from individuals
22 utilizing the New Jersey Workforce Transcript pursuant to this
23 section, or from other entities or individuals using the services
24 provided by the center. Any fee or other revenue collected by the
25 center shall be used to fund the operations of the center.

26
27 2. There is appropriated from the General Fund to Thomas
28 Edison State University the sum of \$2,000,000 for the purposes of
29 this act.

30
31 3. This act shall take effect immediately.
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34 STATEMENT

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36 This bill establishes Thomas Edison State University the Center
37 for Career Relevant Education and Talent Evaluation of New Jersey
38 (CreateNJ). The purpose of CreateNJ would be to maximize
39 collaboration between institutions of higher education and partner
40 organizations that develop and implement career pathways for
41 nontraditional students and workers and workforce development
42 programs. The center would be the State's central resource to
43 evaluate and translate learning into a validated record of academic
44 credit, career credentials, pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship
45 credits, and pertinent knowledge, skills, and abilities. The validated
46 record developed by the center pursuant to this section shall be
47 known as the New Jersey Workforce Transcript.

1 CreateNJ would establish a steering committee, the purpose of
2 which is to foster partnerships between government and industry for
3 the mapping of credentials and to contribute to the direction and
4 sustainability of the center. The steering committee would be co-
5 chaired by the President of Thomas Edison State University and the
6 Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development, or their
7 designees. Other members of the steering committee would include
8 representatives from:

9 (1) the Division of Consumer Affairs in the Department of Law
10 and Public Safety;

11 (2) the Office of the Secretary of Higher Education;

12 (3) the Department of Education;

13 (4) the New Jersey Council of County Colleges; and

14 (5) the New Jersey Business and Industry Association.

15 Under the bill, CreateNJ would establish a database that houses
16 all of the skills or credits credentialed or accepted by Thomas
17 Edison State University or other participating institutions of higher
18 education pursuant to the bill.