

ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION No. 184

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

211th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 3, 2004

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman JEFF VAN DREW

District 1 (Cape May, Atlantic and Cumberland)

Assemblyman JOSEPH V. EGAN

District 17 (Middlesex and Somerset)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblyman Eagler

SYNOPSIS

Creates commission to study the loss of New Jersey jobs through outsourcing and off-shoring.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/11/2004)

1 **AN ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION** creating a commission to study the loss
2 of New Jersey jobs through outsourcing and off-shoring.

3
4 **WHEREAS**, In recent years, a number of companies have replaced
5 highly-skilled workers from New Jersey with lower-paid, foreign
6 laborers, in a practice known as outsourcing or off-shoring; and

7 **WHEREAS**, These outsourcing trends coincide with the U.S. job
8 market's longest slump since the 1930's; and

9 **WHEREAS**, Many white-collar occupations, including technology and
10 computer specialists, financial analysts, accountants, office support,
11 and call-center employees are among the most vulnerable to
12 outsourcing; and

13 **WHEREAS**, The preservation of jobs in New Jersey is of critical
14 importance to the economic well-being of the State; and

15 **WHEREAS**, The economic dislocation caused by a company
16 outsourcing jobs threatens the health, safety, and welfare of the
17 people in this State; and

18 **WHEREAS**, Forrester Research, Inc. predicts that 3.3 million U.S. jobs
19 will be sent offshore by 2015, accounting for 2 percent of the entire
20 workforce and \$136 billion in wages; now, therefore,

21
22 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the General Assembly of the State of New*
23 *Jersey:*

24
25 1. There is created an Assembly Study Commission known as the
26 "Outsourcing and Off-shoring Commission." The commission shall
27 consist of seven members, to be appointed by the Speaker of the
28 General Assembly as follows: three members of the General Assembly,
29 not more than two of whom shall be of the same political party; one
30 member from the New Jersey Business and Industry Association; one
31 member from the New Jersey State Chamber of Commerce; and two
32 members from the New Jersey State AFL-CIO, one of whom shall be
33 from a union representing public employees.

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35 2. All appointments shall be made within 60 days after the effective
36 date of this resolution. Vacancies in the membership of the
37 commission shall be filled in the same manner as the original
38 appointments were made. Members shall serve without compensation.

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40 3. The commission shall organize within 30 days after the
41 appointment of its members and shall select a chairperson and a vice-
42 chairperson from among its members, and a secretary who need not be
43 a member of the commission.

44
45 4. The commission shall conduct no less than three public hearings
46 in furtherance of its general purpose, to be held in the Northern,

1 Central and Southern regions of New Jersey, to elicit the testimony of
2 interested groups and the general public at such times as it shall
3 designate.

4
5 5. It shall be the duty of the commission to study the issues
6 associated with the practices of outsourcing and off-shoring including
7 but not limited to:

8 a. reviewing the impact of outsourcing and off-shoring on private
9 and public employers and employees in the State;

10 b. studying ways to reduce outsourcing and off-shoring in the
11 State;

12 c. determining which employment sectors are most affected by
13 outsourcing and off-shoring issues;

14 d. identifying outsourcing and off-shoring issues that can be
15 controlled or addressed by State law or regulation; and

16 e. providing recommendations concerning steps that need to be
17 taken to ensure that outsourcing and off-shoring practices do not have
18 a detrimental impact on the employers and employees in the State of
19 New Jersey.

20
21 6. The commission shall prepare and submit a final report
22 containing its findings and recommendations, including any
23 recommendations for legislation, to the Speaker and Minority Leader
24 of the General Assembly no later than nine months following its
25 organizational meeting.

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27 7. This resolution shall take effect immediately and shall expire 30
28 days after the submission of the final report of the commission.

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31 STATEMENT

32
33 In recent years, a number of companies have replaced highly-skilled
34 workers from New Jersey with lower-paid, foreign laborers, in a
35 practice known as outsourcing. These outsourcing trends coincide
36 with the U.S. job market's longest slump since the 1930's. As a result,
37 many white-collar occupations, including technology and computer
38 specialists, financial analysts, accountants, office support and call-
39 center employees are among the most vulnerable to outsourcing. As
40 the preservation of jobs in New Jersey is of critical importance to the
41 economic well-being of the State and the economic dislocation caused
42 by a company outsourcing jobs threatens the health, safety, and
43 welfare of the people in this State, the public interest will be best
44 served by studying this issue as comprehensibly as possible. This
45 resolution provides for a study to determine the problems faced as a
46 result of outsourcing and off-shoring, and to explore possible

1 solutions.

2 This resolution creates a commission to be known as the
3 "Outsourcing and Off-shoring Commission." The commission shall
4 consist of seven members appointed by the Speaker of the General
5 Assembly as follows: three members of the General Assembly not
6 more than two of whom shall be of the same political party; one
7 member from the New Jersey Business and Industry Association; one
8 member from the New Jersey State Chamber of Commerce; and two
9 members from the New Jersey State AFL-CIO, one of whom shall be
10 from a union representing public employees.

11 The commission will study ways to reduce outsourcing and off-
12 shoring in the State; determine which employment sectors are most
13 affected by outsourcing and off-shoring issues; identify outsourcing
14 and off-shoring issues that can be controlled or addressed by State law
15 or regulation and provide recommendations concerning steps that need
16 to be taken to ensure that outsourcing and off-shoring practices do not
17 have a detrimental impact on the employers and employees in the State
18 of New Jersey.

19 The commission shall prepare and submit a final report containing
20 its findings and recommendations, including recommendations for
21 legislation, to the Speaker and Minority Leader of the General
22 Assembly no later than nine months following its organizational
23 meeting.