



# New Jersey State Employment and Training Commission

Dennis M. Bone, *Chairman*

Chris Christie, *Governor*

## **POLICY RESOLUTION: SETC #2015-04**

**SUBJECT:** New Jersey Regional Designations

### **Background**

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) of 2014 requires that the State identify regions in the State, after consultation with the local boards and chief elected officials in the local areas, that are consistent with labor market areas in the State, are consistent with regional economic development areas in the State, and have available the Federal and non-Federal resources necessary to effectively administer activities under 29 U.S.C. 3151 through 3181 (Chapter 32, Subchapter I, Part B, of WIOA) and any other applicable provisions of WIOA, including whether the areas have the appropriate education and training providers, such as institutions of higher education and area career and technical education schools.

### **Process to Identify Workforce Planning Regions**

The state-led WIOA Governance and Planning Workgroup, comprised of Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB) directors and State Employment and Training Commission (SETC) members, examined the requirements of WIOA, the labor market areas and regional economic development areas, and resources in the State, and considered the potential opportunities and challenges involved in creating regional partnerships.

The SETC adopted three regional designation options as part of "Pathways and Partnerships: New Jersey's Blueprint for Talent Development" in June 2015. Presentations of these three regional designation options were subsequently provided to the New Jersey Association of Counties, to LWDB Chairpersons and Directors, and One-Stop Operators, and Local Chief Elected Officials at regional meetings held throughout the state. In addition, the regional designations presentation was made available for written public comment.

The SETC Governance Committee reviewed the workgroup recommendations, the feedback provided through the regional workforce meetings, and the public comment received. The committee is now proposing that **Option 1**, as illustrated by the attached regional map, be used for the purpose of creating three (3) workforce planning regions in New Jersey:

- **North Region:** Bergen, Essex, Newark, Hudson/Jersey City, Passaic, Union, Greater Raritan (Somerset/Hunterdon) and Morris/Sussex/Warren
- **Central Region:** Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Ocean
- **South Region:** Burlington, Camden, Gloucester, Cumberland/Salem, Atlantic/Cape May

Upon formal resolution by the SETC, the policy will be posted on the SETC website and the policy document distributed to the Local Chief Elected Officials and Local Workforce Development Board Chairpersons and Directors. Subsequently, the policy will be submitted to the U.S. Department of Labor as part of the New Jersey Combined State Plan, and be available for public comment as part of the State Plan.

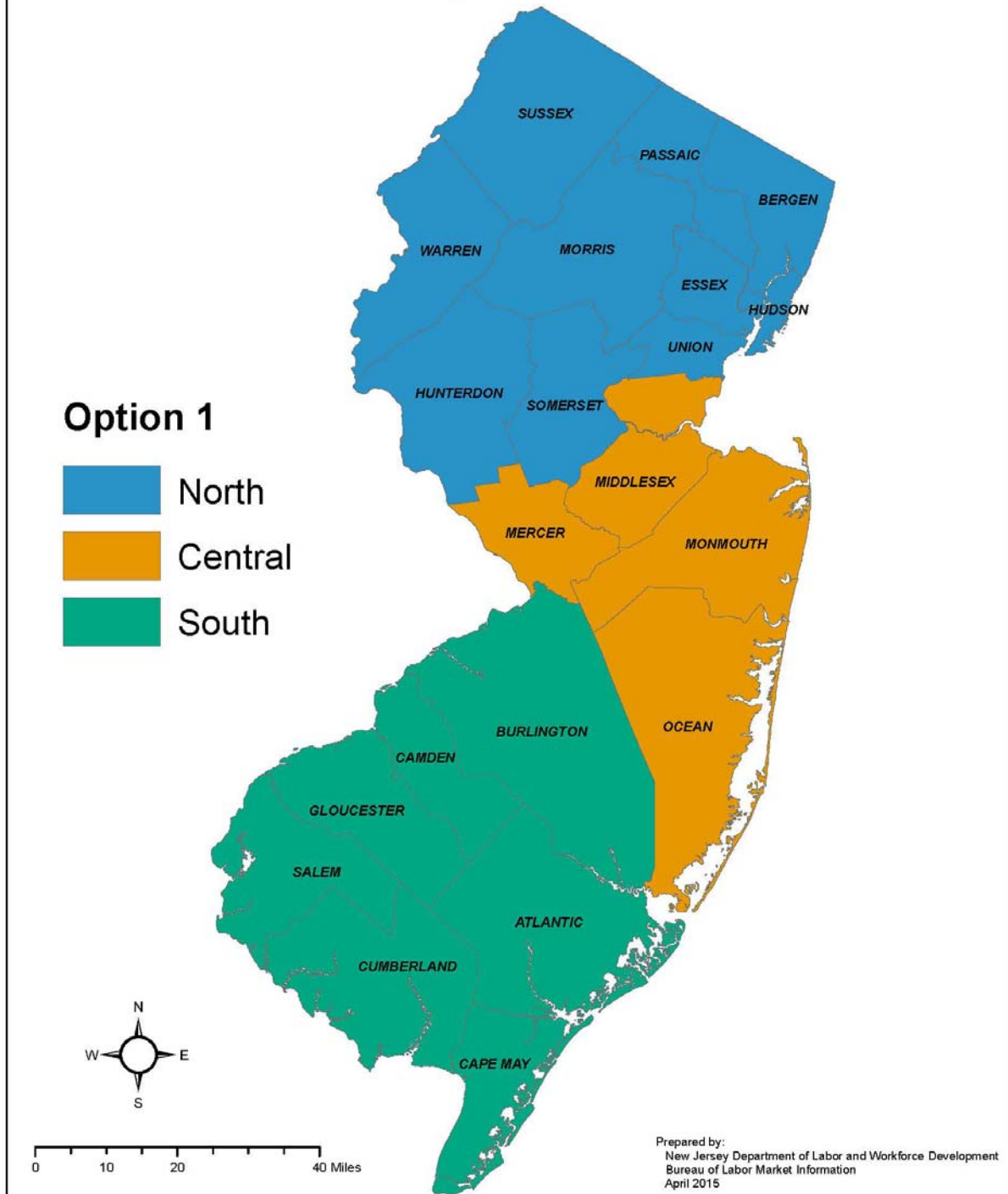
**RESOLUTION:**

**As required under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) of 2014, the State Employment and Training Commission hereby resolves that three (3) workforce planning regions be designated in New Jersey: North, Central and South, as illustrated in the attached regional map. This policy takes immediate effect and will be included in the New Jersey Combined State Plan.**

**Attachment:** Regional Designation Option 1 Map

**Commission Approved: November 10, 2015**

## Regional Designation Option 1



### **OPTION 1 Map - Local Areas**

**North Region:** Bergen, Hudson/Jersey City, Essex, Newark, Passaic, Union, Greater Raritan (Somerset/Hunterdon) and Morris/Sussex/Warren

**Central Region:** Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Ocean

**South Region:** Burlington, Camden, Gloucester, Cumberland/Salem, Atlantic/Cape May