

ASSEMBLY, No. 5825

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

221st LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 16, 2025

Sponsored by:
Assemblyman STERLEY S. STANLEY
District 18 (Middlesex)

SYNOPSIS

Requires registration and oversight of home education programs.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 **AN ACT** concerning home education programs and supplementing
2 Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

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

6
7 1. a. By August 1 of each school year or within 14 days of
8 beginning a home education program, a parent or guardian shall
9 submit to the superintendent of the resident school district a letter
10 registering the parent's or guardian's child in a home education
11 program. The letter shall include:

12 (1) the name and age of the student participating in the home
13 education program; and

14 (2) the name of the supervisor of the home education program
15 responsible for providing instruction.

16 b. In addition to the letter submitted pursuant to subsection a. of
17 this section, the parent or guardian shall submit a copy of the
18 curriculum that will be utilized in the home education program,
19 which shall be aligned with the New Jersey Student Learning
20 Standards.

21
22 2. a. The supervisor of the home education program shall
23 maintain for the student a portfolio of records and materials to
24 demonstrate educational progress including, but not limited to, a
25 student record that lists reading materials used, samples of writings,
26 worksheets, workbooks, or creative materials used or developed by
27 the student. The portfolio shall also include an annual written
28 evaluation of the student's educational progress as determined by a
29 qualified evaluator, who may be a licensed psychologist or a
30 certified school psychologist, a teacher or administrator of a public
31 or nonpublic school in the State, or any other individual approved
32 by the superintendent of the resident school district. The evaluator
33 shall not be the student's parent or guardian. The evaluation shall
34 certify whether an appropriate education is occurring in the home
35 education program.

36 b. The supervisor of the home education program shall annually
37 submit the portfolio required pursuant to subsection a. of this
38 section to the superintendent of the resident school district on or
39 before June 30th of each school year.

40
41 3. The superintendent of the resident school district shall
42 approve a State-endorsed diploma for a student in a home education
43 program who has met the requirements of this act and has
44 documented the attainment of academic skills and knowledge
45 equivalent to a high school education.

46
47 4. This act shall take effect in the first full school year next
48 following the date of enactment.

STATEMENT

This bill requires parents or guardians who intend to home school their child to submit annually a letter to the superintendent of the school district in which the child resides, registering the child in a home education program. The letter is to include the name and age of the student participating in the home education program and the name of the supervisor of the home education program responsible for providing instruction. In addition to the letter, the parent is to also submit a copy of the curriculum that will be used. The curriculum is required to be aligned with the New Jersey Student Learning Standards.

In order to ensure the academic progress of students in home education programs, the supervisor of a home education program is required to maintain a student portfolio of records and materials, including a record that lists reading materials used, samples of writings, worksheets, workbooks, or creative materials used or developed by the student. The portfolio is also to include an annual written evaluation of the student's educational progress as determined by a qualified evaluator. The evaluation is to certify whether an appropriate education is occurring in the home education program. The portfolio is to be annually submitted to the superintendent on or before June 30th of each school year.

Finally, the bill authorizes the superintendent of the resident school district to approve a State-endorsed diploma for a student in a home education program who: has met the requirements of this bill; and has documented the attainment of academic skills and knowledge equivalent to a high school education.