

ASSEMBLY SCIENCE, INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO
ASSEMBLY, No. 1323

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: FEBRUARY 19, 2026

The Assembly Science, Innovation and Technology Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Assembly Bill No. 1323.

As amended and reported, this bill requires a board of education of a school district and a board of trustees of a charter school or renaissance school project that utilizes a surveillance system, including a video surveillance system, x-ray machine, or body scanner, with artificial intelligence capabilities to adopt a policy regarding the use of the surveillance system.

Under this bill, the policy, at a minimum, is to: (1) include information on the surveillance system installed by the district or school; (2) identify the type of information that is to be collected through the surveillance system; (3) include information on how the board plans to utilize the information obtained through the surveillance system; (4) address the board's plan to provide access to the information obtained through the surveillance system, in compliance with State and federal law governing student records and the provisions of the Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement Between Education and Law Enforcement Officials; and (5) require the board to post signage in a prominent, public place in buildings and on school grounds where the surveillance system may be used. The signage is required to indicate that a surveillance system with artificial intelligence capabilities is in use in the building or on the school grounds.

The bill clarifies that the policy adopted by a board of education or board of trustees that utilizes a video surveillance system is to comply with the current law that requires the establishment of a memorandum of understanding between the board of education or board of trustees and law enforcement in regard to video surveillance equipment that is capable of streaming live videos wirelessly to remote locations.

Additionally, a board of education or board of trustees that is required to establish a policy under this bill is required to distribute the policy to the parents and guardians of students within the district or school.

This bill was pre-filed for introduction in the 2026-2027 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review, which has been performed.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The committee amended this bill to:

(1) clarify that the bill affects boards of trustees of charter schools and renaissance school projects, as well as boards of education of school districts;

(2) expand the scope of the bill to cover x-ray machines and body scanners;

(3) remove the requirement that a board's policy include the benefits and challenges of utilizing a surveillance system;

(4) clarify that the requirement that a board's policy address the board's plan to provide access to the information obtained through a surveillance system be in compliance with State and federal law governing student records and the provisions of the Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement Between Education and Law Enforcement Officials; and

(5) define "artificial intelligence" to mean the development of software and hardware and the end-use application of technologies that are able to perform tasks normally requiring human intelligence, including, but not limited to, visual perception, speech recognition, decision-making, translation between languages, and generative artificial intelligence, which generates new content in response to user inputs of data.