

[Second Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 1029

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
216th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2014 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman DANIEL R. BENSON

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE

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Assemblyman BENJIE E. WIMBERLY

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District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Senator M. TERESA RUIZ

District 29 (Essex)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblymen Fiocchi, Greenwald, Assemblywomen Lampitt, Mosquera, Jimenez, Simon, Watson Coleman, Assemblymen Garcia, McKeon, Gusciora, Eustace, Assemblywomen Pinkin, Spencer, Caride, Assemblyman Diegnan, Assemblywoman Pintor Marin, Assemblymen Schaer and Daniels

SYNOPSIS

Requires training program for school bus drivers and school bus aides on interacting with students with special needs, and requires development and use of student information cards.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As amended by the General Assembly on November 13, 2014.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 8/14/2015)

A1029 [2R] BENSON, VAINIERI HUTTLE

2

1 AN ACT concerning training of school bus drivers and aides and
2 supplementing chapter 39 of Title 18A of the New Jersey
3 Statutes.

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

7
8 1. The Commissioner of Education shall develop a training
9 program for school bus drivers and school bus aides on proper
10 procedures for interacting with students with special needs. The
11 training program shall include, but need not be limited to, the
12 following:

- 13 a. appropriate behavior management;
14 b. effective communication;
15 c. use and operation of adaptive equipment; and
16 d. understanding behaviors that may be related to specific
17 disabilities.

18 The commissioner shall make the training program available to
19 boards of education and school bus contractors providing pupil
20 transportation services under contract with boards of education no
21 later than one year following the effective date of this act.

22
23 2. a. An employer shall administer the training program
24 developed pursuant to section 1 of this act to all school bus drivers
25 and school bus aides that it employs. In the case of an individual
26 who is employed prior to the development and availability of the
27 training program, the employer shall administer the training
28 program to the individual no later than 180 days after the training
29 program is made available by the commissioner. In the case of an
30 individual who is employed after the development and availability
31 of the training program, the employer shall administer the training
32 program to the individual prior to that individual operating a school
33 bus or serving as an aide on a school bus.

34 b. ¹An employer shall require that a school bus driver or school
35 bus aide file a certification with the employer that the individual has
36 completed the training program within five business days of its
37 completion. The employer shall retain a copy of the certification
38 for the duration of the individual's employment ², and shall forward
39 a copy of the certification to the Department of Education² .

40 c.¹ As used in this section, "employer" means a board of
41 education or a contractor that provides pupil transportation services
42 under contract with a board of education.

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Assembly AED committee amendments adopted September 11, 2014.

²Assembly floor amendments adopted November 13, 2014.

1 ²3. a. The Commissioner of Education shall develop a student
2 information card that includes information that should be readily
3 available to a school bus driver and school bus aide for the purpose
4 of promoting proper interaction with a student with special needs.
5 The parent or guardian of a student with an individualized
6 education plan shall complete the student information card when the
7 individualized education plan is developed or amended for a student
8 who receives transportation services.

9 b. Upon receiving consent from a student's parent or guardian,
10 the school district shall provide a copy of the completed student
11 information card to a school bus driver and school bus aide for each
12 student on the bus route to which the school bus driver or school
13 bus aide is assigned for whom a student information card has been
14 completed by the parent or guardian.²

15

16 ²[3.] 4.² This act shall take effect immediately.