

# SENATE, No. 441

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 216th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2014 SESSION

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator M. TERESA RUIZ**

**District 29 (Essex)**

**Senator DIANE B. ALLEN**

**District 7 (Burlington)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires school districts to adopt policies concerning electronic communications between employees and students.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel



1 AN ACT concerning the adoption of electronic communication  
2 policies by public school districts and supplementing chapter 36  
3 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.  
4

5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
6 of New Jersey:  
7

8 1. a. As used in this section, “electronic communication”  
9 means a communication transmitted by means of an electronic  
10 device including, but not limited to, a telephone, cellular phone,  
11 computer, computer network, personal data assistant, or pager.  
12 Electronic communications include, but are not limited to, e-mails,  
13 text messages, instant messages, and communications made by  
14 means of an Internet website, including social media and social  
15 networking websites.

16 b. Each school district shall, within 120 days of the effective  
17 date of this act, adopt a written policy concerning electronic  
18 communications between school employees and students enrolled in  
19 the district. The policy shall include, at a minimum, provisions  
20 designed to prevent improper communications between school  
21 employees and students made via e-mail, cellular phones, social  
22 networking websites, and other Internet-based social media.  
23

24 2. This act shall take effect immediately.  
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27 STATEMENT  
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29 This bill would require every public school district to adopt a  
30 written policy concerning electronic communications between  
31 school employees and students enrolled in the district. The policy  
32 must include provisions designed to prevent improper  
33 communications between school employees and students made via  
34 e-mail, cellular phones, social networking websites, and other  
35 Internet-based social media.