

[Second Reprint]

SENATE, No. 2058

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
216th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MAY 5, 2014

Sponsored by:

Senator RAYMOND J. LESNIAK

District 20 (Union)

Assemblyman ANGEL FUENTES

District 5 (Camden and Gloucester)

Assemblyman PATRICK J. DIEGNAN, JR.

District 18 (Middlesex)

Assemblywoman SHAVONDA E. SUMTER

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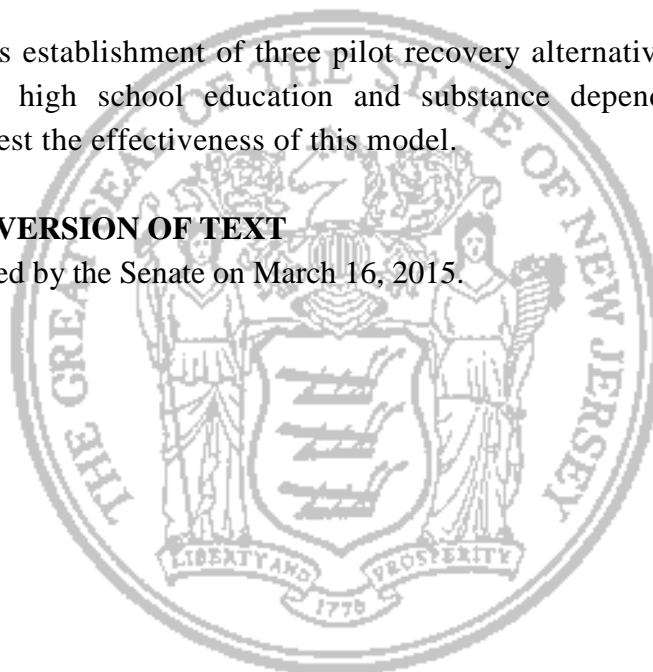
**Assemblymen Greenwald, DeAngelo, Assemblywoman Jasey and
Assemblyman Eustace**

SYNOPSIS

Authorizes establishment of three pilot recovery alternative high schools that provide high school education and substance dependency plan of recovery to test the effectiveness of this model.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As amended by the Senate on March 16, 2015.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/12/2015)

1 AN ACT concerning the establishment of ¹**[a]**¹ pilot recovery
 2 ¹alternative¹ high ¹**[school]** schools¹ and supplementing chapter
 3 6 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. This act shall be known and may be cited as the “Recovery
 9 ¹Alternative¹ High School Act.”

10
 11 2. As used in this act:

12 “Recovery ¹Alternative¹ High School” means ¹**[a public school]**
 13 an alternative education program pursuant to N.J.A.C.6A:16-1.3¹
 14 that serves students diagnosed with substance use disorder or
 15 dependency as defined by the most recent Diagnostic and Statistical
 16 Manual of Mental Disorders, and that provides ¹**[both]**¹ a
 17 comprehensive four-year high school education ¹in an alternative
 18 public school setting¹ and a structured plan of recovery.

19 “Sending district” means the district where the student attending
 20 or planning to attend the recovery ¹alternative¹ high school resides,
 21 and that, upon the recommendation of an alcohol and drug
 22 counselor certified pursuant to P.L.1997, c.331 (C.45:2D-1 et seq.)
 23 ¹and of its board of education¹, refers the student for enrollment in
 24 the recovery ¹alternative¹ high school ¹because the student would
 25 academically and clinically benefit from placement in the
 26 alternative education program¹.

27
 28 3. a. The Commissioner of Education is authorized to ¹**[create**
 29 **a]** permit three¹ pilot recovery ¹alternative¹ high ¹**[school]** schools,
 30 one each in the northern, central, and southern regions of the State,
 31 to be established by school districts or county vocational school
 32 districts¹ for the purpose of demonstrating the effectiveness of the
 33 recovery ¹alternative¹ high school model in New Jersey. The
 34 commissioner shall issue a request for proposals to operate ¹**[the]**
 35 **a**¹ pilot recovery ¹alternative¹ high school. ¹The proposal shall
 36 detail how the district will satisfy the criteria for an alternative
 37 education program pursuant to N.J.A.C.6A:16-9.2, and how the
 38 recovery alternative high school will satisfy the requirements for
 39 accreditation by the Association of Recovery Schools.¹ A proposal
 40 shall be submitted to the commissioner no later than December 1 of
 41 the school year prior to the school year in which the recovery
 42 ¹alternative¹ high school is to begin operation. ¹**[The approval of**

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:

¹Senate SBA committee amendments adopted February 9, 2015.

²Senate floor amendments adopted March 16, 2015.

1 the State Board of Education shall be required in order for the
2 recovery high school to begin operation.】¹

3 b. ¹【By approval of the proposal upon the recommendation of
4 the commissioner, the State board shall be deemed to have
5 authorized all necessary equivalencies and waivers of regulations
6 enumerated in the proposal.

7 c. After two years of operation,】 A pilot recovery alternative
8 high school shall be authorized for a period not to exceed four
9 years. Annually the school district or county vocational school
10 district, in consultation with¹ the pilot recovery ¹alternative¹ high
11 school ^{1,1} shall submit to the commissioner an analysis of the
12 recovery ¹alternative¹ high school's educational outcomes
13 including, but not limited to, student graduation rates, retention
14 rates, course performance, and performance on the State
15 assessments.

16
17 4. ¹【a. Any school district in the State that has】 A sending
18 district may enter into an agreement ²【,】² with a district which has
19 established a recovery alternative high school ²【and is located in
20 the same county,】² for the provision of services to¹ a student who is
21 currently enrolled ¹【or resides in the municipality in which the
22 district is located】 in the sending district¹ and who the ¹sending¹
23 district considers to be both clinically and academically appropriate
24 for referral to the recovery ¹alternative¹ high school ¹【may refer
25 that student for voluntary enrollment in the school】¹. If the student
26 is admitted to the recovery ¹alternative¹ high school, the sending
27 district shall ¹【ensure that payment for the student is made in
28 accordance with the provisions of subsection b. of this section, and
29 that upon completion of all State and local graduation requirements
30 the student receives a State-endorsed high school diploma.

31 b. (1) A sending district shall pay directly to the recovery high
32 school for each student attending the high school who meets the
33 criteria of paragraph (2) of this subsection an amount equal to 100%
34 of the sum of the budget year equalization aid per pupil, adjustment
35 aid per pupil, and the prebudget year general fund tax levy per pupil
36 inflated by the CPI rate most recent to the calculation. In addition,
37 the sending district shall pay directly to the recovery high school
38 the security categorical aid attributable to the student and a
39 percentage of the district's special education categorical aid equal
40 to the percentage of the district's special education students
41 enrolled in the recovery high school. The district shall also pay
42 directly to the recovery high school any federal funds directly
43 attributable to the student.

44 (2) A sending district shall pay the amount required pursuant to
45 paragraph (1) of this subsection for each student who:

- 1 (a) is currently enrolled in the district or currently resides in the
2 municipality in which the district is located;
- 3 (b) is considered by a certified alcohol and drug counselor to be
4 clinically appropriate, using the criteria for substance use disorders
5 as defined in the most recent Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of
6 Mental Disorders; and
- 7 (c) meets all matriculation criteria as outlined by the sending
8 district and the Department of Education. The determination of
9 academic eligibility shall be based on existing documentation
10 provided by the district.
- 11 c. The recovery high school shall submit to the State board the
12 academic data considered necessary by the State board to provide
13 information regarding each student's academic performance,
14 subject to applicable health confidentiality laws and regulations**】**
15 pay tuition to that district calculated in accordance with the
16 provisions of N.J.S.18A:38-19¹.
17
- 18 5. The State Board of Education, in consultation with the
19 Department of Health, shall adopt regulations pursuant to the
20 "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et
21 seq.), to effectuate the purposes of this act.
22
- 23 6. This act shall take effect immediately.