SENATE, No. 2484

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

216th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED OCTOBER 14, 2014

Sponsored by:

Senator RICHARD J. CODEY

District 27 (Essex and Morris)

Senator SHIRLEY K. TURNER

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

Assemblywoman MILA M. JASEY

District 27 (Essex and Morris)

Assemblyman DANIEL R. BENSON

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE

District 37 (Bergen)

Assemblyman JOHN F. MCKEON

District 27 (Essex and Morris)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senator Kyrillos, Assemblymen Diegnan, Coughlin, Wimberly, Assemblywoman Muoio and Assemblyman Eustace

SYNOPSIS

Requires DOE to conduct study on options and benefits of instituting later school start time in middle school and high school.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.

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

1	AN ACT requiring the Department of Education to conduct a study
2	on school start times.
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4	BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5	of New Jersey:
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7	1. a. The Department of Education shall conduct a study on the
8	issues, benefits, and options for instituting a later start time to the
9	school day in middle school and high school. The study shall:
10	(1) consider the recent recommendations of the American
11	Academy of Pediatrics on the establishment of later school start
12	times;
13	(2) include an assessment of the health, academic, and safety
14	benefits associated with establishing later start times in middle
15	schools and high schools;
16	(3) evaluate any potential negative impacts on school districts
17	and families that may be associated with a later start time and
18	consider strategies for addressing potential problems; and
19	(4) review all available literature and data on the experiences of
20	school districts in the nation that have instituted later start times.
21	b. The department shall submit a report on the study to the
22	Governor, and to the Legislature pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991,
23	c.164 (C.52:14-19.1) that details the findings of the study. The
24	report shall include a recommendation on the advisability of
25	establishing a pilot program to test later school start times in select
26	middle schools and high schools throughout the State that are
27	interested in participating in the program.
28	merested in participating in the program.
29	2. This act shall take effect immediately.
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32	STATEMENT
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34	This bill directs the Department of Education to conduct a study
35	on the issues, benefits, and options for instituting a later start time
36	to the school day in middle school and high school. The study will:
37	(1) consider the recent recommendations of the American
38	Academy of Pediatrics on the establishment of later school start
39	times;
40	(2) include an assessment of the health, academic, and safety
41	benefits associated with establishing later start times in middle
42	schools and high schools;
43	(3) evaluate any potential negative impacts on school districts
44	and families that may be associated with a later start time and
45	consider strategies for addressing potential problems; and
46	(4) review all available literature and data on the experiences of
47	school districts in the nation that have instituted later start times.
48	Under the bill, the department must submit a report on the study
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- 1 to the Governor and to the Legislature that details the findings of
- 2 the study. The report will include a recommendation on the
- advisability of establishing a pilot program to test later school start
- 4 times in select middle schools and high schools throughout the State
- 5 that are interested in participating in the program.