

SENATE, No. 2513

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 216th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED OCTOBER 16, 2014

Sponsored by:

Senator PETER J. BARNES, III

District 18 (Middlesex)

Senator M. TERESA RUIZ

District 29 (Essex)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senators Sarlo and Turner

SYNOPSIS

Establishes Task Force on Engineering Curriculum and Instruction.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/15/2015)

1 AN ACT establishing the Task Force on Engineering Curriculum
2 and Instruction.

3

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

6

7 1. There is established in the Department of Education a Task
8 Force on Engineering Curriculum and Instruction. The task force
9 shall consist of 10 members, including the Commissioner of
10 Education, or a designee, and nine public members appointed by the
11 Governor as follows: one representative each from the New Jersey
12 School Boards Association, the New Jersey Education Association,
13 the New Jersey Principals and Supervisors Association, and the
14 New Jersey Parent Teacher Association; a representative of an
15 engineering program at a public institution of higher education; a
16 representative of an engineering program at an independent
17 institution of higher education; a representative of a nonprofit
18 organization that provides science education programming in the
19 public schools; and two representatives from New Jersey-based
20 engineering, science, and technology businesses.

21

22 2. It shall be the duty of the task force to make recommendations
23 to the State Board of Education on how to incorporate engineering
24 curriculum into the K-12 science curriculum. The task force shall
25 review the Next Generation Science Standards in its efforts to develop
26 innovative ways to teach engineering to public school students.

27

28 3. Appointments to the task force shall be made within 30 days
29 of the effective date of this act. Vacancies in the membership of the
30 task force shall be filled in the same manner as the original
31 appointments were made. Members of the task force shall serve
32 without compensation but shall be entitled to reimbursement for
33 expenses actually incurred in the performance of their duties within
34 the limits of funds made available to the task force for its purposes.

35 The task force shall hold its initial organizational meeting as soon
36 as practicable, but no later than 30 days following the appointment of
37 the members.

38 The task force shall choose a chairperson from among its members
39 and shall appoint a secretary who need not be a member of the task
40 force.

41

42 4. Staff and related support services shall be provided to the
43 task force by the Department of Education. The task force shall
44 also be entitled to call to its assistance and avail itself of the
45 services of the employees of any State, county or municipal
46 department, board, bureau, commission or agency as it may require
47 and as may be available to it for its purposes.

1 5. The task force shall issue a final report of its findings and
2 recommendations, including any recommended legislation, to the
3 Governor, the State Board of Education, and to the Legislature
4 pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), no later
5 than one year after its organizational meeting.

6

7 6. This act shall take effect immediately and the task force
8 shall expire 30 days after the submission of its final report.

9

10

11

STATEMENT

12

13 This bill establishes in the Department of Education a Task Force
14 on Engineering Curriculum and Instruction. The task force will
15 consist of 10 members, including the Commissioner of Education or
16 a designee, and nine public members appointed by the Governor as
17 follows: one representative each from the New Jersey School
18 Boards Association, the New Jersey Education Association, the
19 New Jersey Principals and Supervisors Association, and the New
20 Jersey Parent Teacher Association; a representative of an
21 engineering program at a public institution of higher education; a
22 representative of an engineering program at an independent
23 institution of higher education; a representative of a nonprofit
24 organization that provides science education programming in the
25 public schools; and two representatives from New Jersey-based
26 engineering, science, and technology businesses.

27 Under the bill, the task force is charged with making
28 recommendations to the State Board of Education on how to
29 incorporate engineering curriculum into the K-12 science
30 curriculum. The task force must review the Next Generation
31 Science Standards in its efforts to develop innovative ways to teach
32 engineering to public school students.

33 The bill requires the task force to issue a final report of its
34 findings and recommendations, including any recommended
35 legislation, to the Governor, the State Board of Education, and the
36 Legislature no later than one year after its organizational meeting.
37 The task force will expire 30 days after the submission of its report.