

ASSEMBLY, No. 309

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

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SYNOPSIS

Requires development of longitudinal data system that maintains individuals' data from preschool through entry into workforce.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 AN ACT requiring the establishment of a Statewide longitudinal
2 data system and supplementing chapter 3B of Title 18A of the
3 New Jersey Statutes.

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

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8 1. The Secretary of Higher Education, the Commissioner of
9 Education, and the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce
10 Development shall jointly establish a P-20 Longitudinal Data
11 System Working Group. The purpose of the working group shall be
12 to develop a student-level longitudinal data system established
13 pursuant to section 2 of this act. The working group shall
14 determine the following matters:

15 a. the data elements to be maintained in the longitudinal data
16 system;

17 b. the process by which entities will submit information to the
18 data system;

19 c. the measures to be taken to ensure that all data in the
20 longitudinal data system are secure and that individuals' privacy is
21 not compromised;

22 d. the development of analytic reports that will be created using
23 information stored in the longitudinal data system; and

24 e. the feasibility of collecting postsecondary education and
25 employment data for inclusion in the longitudinal data system of
26 individuals who graduated from a public secondary school in the
27 State and subsequently moved out-of-State.

28
29 2. a. No later than the beginning of the first full academic year
30 following the effective date of this act, the Office of the Secretary
31 of Higher Education, the Department of Education, and the
32 Department of Labor and Workforce Development shall enter into a
33 memorandum of understanding to develop a longitudinal data
34 system that will connect data records for individuals enrolled in
35 State-funded preschool programs, public elementary and secondary
36 schools, institutions of higher education located in the State, and
37 employed in the State. At their discretion, the data system
38 established pursuant to this section shall be capable of the
39 following:

40 (1) reducing, to the maximum extent possible, the data
41 collection burden on school districts and institutions of higher
42 education by using data submitted to the longitudinal data system
43 for multiple reporting and analysis functions;

44 (2) providing authorized officials with access to individual-level
45 data, summary reports, and data that may be integrated with
46 additional data maintained outside of the longitudinal data system
47 to inform education decision-making;

1 (3) enhancing existing school-to-postsecondary reporting
2 systems to inform school district officials, policymakers, and the
3 public about public school students' performance in postsecondary
4 institutions of higher education;

5 (4) improving student access to postsecondary educational
6 opportunities by linking student data to college and career planning
7 tools to facilitate the submission of transcript data and enabling the
8 transfer of student records to officials of an institution of higher
9 education to which a student seeks enrollment;

10 (5) establishing a publicly-available Internet website that
11 provides reports of data that are not confidential; and

12 (6) providing research and reports on the effectiveness of
13 specific programs and initiatives.

14 b. The longitudinal data system established pursuant to this
15 section may include, but need not be limited to, the following data
16 elements:

17 (1) a unique identifier, other than an individual's social security
18 number or derived from an individual's social security number, that
19 allows for the merging of an individual's data as the individual
20 progresses through elementary, secondary, and postsecondary
21 education and employment;

22 (2) individual-level enrollment, demographic, and program
23 participation data;

24 (3) performance on each State assessment and reasons why an
25 individual did not participate in a State assessment;

26 (4) individual-level transcript information;

27 (5) information regarding an individual's status as a graduate or
28 a dropout of a secondary or postsecondary institution; and

29 (6) an individual's quarterly earnings when the individual is no
30 longer enrolled in an educational institution.

31 c. The longitudinal data system shall be operational no later
32 than the beginning of the second full academic year following the
33 effective date of this act.

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35 3. Each public institution of higher education shall submit the
36 required data elements to the longitudinal data system in a manner
37 to be determined by the Secretary of Higher Education. The
38 secretary shall allow an independent institution of higher education
39 to submit data elements to the longitudinal data system, and
40 independent institutions of higher education are encouraged to do
41 so.

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43 4. The working group established pursuant to section 1 of this
44 act shall submit a report to the Governor, and to the Legislature
45 pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1). The report
46 shall contain information on the implementation and effectiveness

1 of the longitudinal data system, and on the need for State funds to
2 continue, expand, or modify the operations of the longitudinal data
3 system.

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5 5. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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10 This bill requires the development of a Statewide longitudinal data
11 system that is capable of retaining individual-level information. The
12 data records would include information starting when an individual
13 enrolls in a public school, and would continue as the individual enters
14 the workforce.

15 Under the bill, the Secretary of Higher Education, the
16 Commissioner of Education, and the Commissioner of Labor and
17 Workforce Development will jointly establish a P-20 Longitudinal
18 Data System Working Group. The working group will determine:

- 19 • the data elements to be maintained in the longitudinal data
20 system;
- 21 • the process by which entities will submit information to the
22 data system;
- 23 • the measures to be taken to ensure that all data in the
24 longitudinal data system are secure and that individuals'
25 privacy is not compromised;
- 26 • the development of analytic reports that will be created using
27 information stored in the longitudinal data system; and
- 28 • the feasibility of collecting postsecondary education and
29 employment data for inclusion in the longitudinal data system
30 of individuals who graduated from a public secondary school
31 in the State and subsequently moved out-of-State.

32 The bill requires that the Office of the Secretary of Higher
33 Education, the Department of Education, and the Department of Labor
34 and Workforce Development enter into a memorandum of
35 understanding no later than the beginning of the first full academic
36 year following the bill's effective date to develop the longitudinal data
37 system. The system would be operational by the beginning of the
38 second full academic year following the bill's effective date.