

ASSEMBLY, No. 390

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman EDWARD H. THOMSON
District 30 (Monmouth and Ocean)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblymen Space, Wirths and S.Kean

SYNOPSIS

Requires school district that includes grades kindergarten through six to offer Eddie Eagle Gunsafe Program.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 **AN ACT** concerning gun safety instruction for certain students and
2 supplementing chapter 35 of Title 18A of the New Jersey
3 Statutes.

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

8 1. The Legislature finds and declares that:

9 a. The National Rifle Association created the Eddie Eagle
10 Gunsafe Program in 1988 to promote the protection and safety of
11 children;

b. The Eddie Eagle Gunsafe Program does not make value judgements as to whether guns are good or bad, but rather promotes the safety of children by teaching elementary school students how to respond if they encounter a firearm;

c. Under the Eddie Eagle Gunsafe Program, students are taught that, if they encounter a firearm, they should follow four simple rules: (1) Stop; (2) Don't Touch; (3) Leave the Area; and (4) Tell an Adult; and

d. Real firearms are never used in the instruction, and the program is endorsed by law enforcement agencies across the United States as an effective method for providing elementary school students with gun safety education.

25 2. A school district that includes grades kindergarten through
26 six shall implement the Eddie Eagle Gunsafe Program. The purpose
27 of the educational program shall be to promote the safety and
28 protection of children. The educational program shall emphasize
29 how students should respond if they encounter a firearm. School
30 personnel and program instructors shall not make value judgments
31 about firearms.

32 A school district shall not use or include a firearm or
33 demonstrate the use of a firearm when teaching the program.

35 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

38 STATEMENT

40 This bill requires a school district that includes grades
41 kindergarten through six to implement the Eddie Eagle Gunsafe
42 Program. The purpose of the educational program is to promote the
43 safety and protection of children and to emphasize how students
44 should respond if they encounter a firearm. A school district may
45 not use or include a firearm or demonstrate the use of a firearm
46 when teaching the program.

47 The National Rifle Association created the Eddie Eagle Gunsafe
48 Program in 1988 to promote the protection and safety of children.

1 The program does not make value judgements as to whether guns
2 are good or bad, but rather promotes the safety of children by
3 teaching elementary school students how to respond if they
4 encounter a firearm. Under the program, students are taught that, if
5 they encounter a firearm, they should follow four simple rules: (1)
6 Stop; (2) Don't Touch; (3) Leave the Area; and (4) Tell an Adult.