

ASSEMBLY, No. 433

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman GREGORY P. MCGUCKIN

District 10 (Ocean)

Assemblyman JOHN CATALANO

District 10 (Ocean)

SYNOPSIS

Requires fire suppression systems in all elementary and secondary schools 12,000 square feet or larger.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 2/3/2020)

1 **AN ACT** concerning school fire safety and supplementing chapter 33
2 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

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7 1. Notwithstanding any law, rule, or regulation to the contrary,
8 an elementary or secondary school that is 12,000 square feet or
9 larger shall be equipped with an automatic fire suppression system.

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11 2. The Commissioner of Education, in consultation with the
12 Commissioner of Community Affairs, shall adopt pursuant to the
13 “Administrative Procedure Act,” P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et
14 seq.), rules and regulations necessary to implement the provisions
15 of this act including rules that prioritize, at the discretion of the
16 Commissioner of Education, elementary and secondary schools for
17 the installation of automatic fire suppression systems.

18
19 3. The State Treasurer, after consultation with the
20 Commissioner of Education, shall have the authority to apply State
21 funds otherwise available to State departments, agencies, and
22 instrumentalities, including the proceeds of bonds issued by the
23 New Jersey Economic Development Authority pursuant to section
24 14 of P.L.2000, c.72 (C.18A:7G-14), for the purpose of securing
25 compliance with the requirements established pursuant to this act.

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27 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

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30 **STATEMENT**

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32 This bill requires the installation of automatic fire suppression
33 systems in elementary and secondary schools 12,000 square feet or
34 larger. Under the bill’s provisions, the Commissioner of Education,
35 in consultation with the Commissioner of Community Affairs, is to
36 adopt regulations necessary to implement this requirement,
37 including rules for the prioritization of elementary and secondary
38 schools for the installation of the automatic fire suppression
39 systems. The bill provides the State Treasurer with the authority to
40 apply State funds otherwise available to State departments,
41 agencies, or instrumentalities, including the proceeds of bonds
42 issued by the New Jersey Economic Development Authority for
43 school facilities projects under the provisions of the “Educational
44 Facilities Construction and Financing Act,” P.L.2000, c.72, for the
45 purpose of securing compliance with the bill’s requirements.

46 Since the 1980’s, fire suppression systems have been required in
47 all newly-constructed schools 12,000 square feet or larger.