

ASSEMBLY, No. 1038

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman MILA M. JASEY
District 27 (Essex and Morris)
Assemblywoman BETTYLOU DECROCE
District 26 (Essex, Morris and Passaic)
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District 4 (Camden and Gloucester)
Assemblyman BENJIE E. WIMBERLY
District 35 (Bergen and Passaic)

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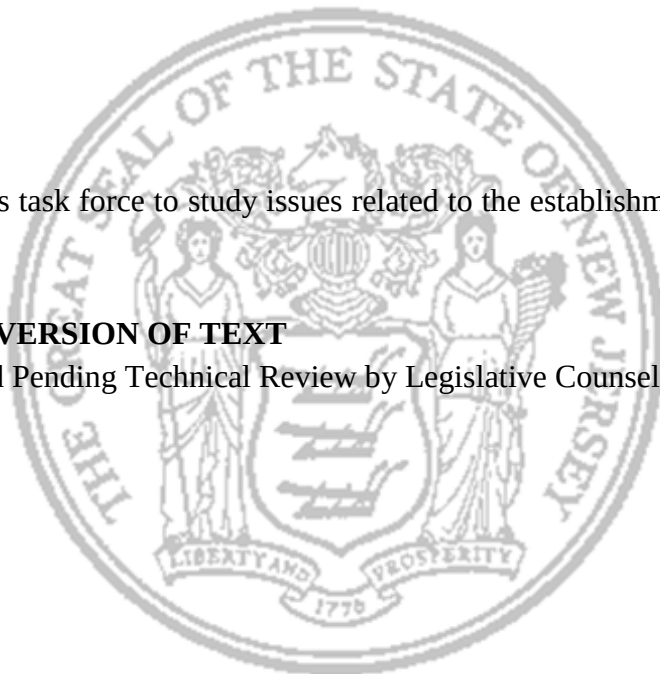
Assemblywomen Jimenez, Vainieri Huttie, Assemblymen Conaway, Coughlin, McKeon, Schaer, Assemblywomen Mosquera, McKnight, Assemblyman Holley, Assemblywoman Murphy, Assemblyman Karabinchak, Assemblywoman Timberlake and Assemblyman Giblin

SYNOPSIS

Establishes task force to study issues related to the establishment of full-day kindergarten.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 **AN ACT** establishing a Task Force on Full-Day Kindergarten.

2

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

5

6 1. a. There is established a Task Force on Full-Day
7 Kindergarten. The purpose of the task force is to study and
8 evaluate issues associated with the establishment of full-day
9 kindergarten.

10 b. The task force shall consist of the following 22 members:

11 (1) the Commissioner of Education, or his designee, who shall
12 serve ex officio;

13 (2) one member appointed by the President of the Senate and
14 one member appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate, both
15 of whom shall be members of the public with demonstrated
16 expertise in issues relating to the work of the task force;

17 (3) one member appointed by the Speaker of the General
18 Assembly and one member appointed by the Minority Leader of the
19 General Assembly, both of whom shall be members of the public
20 with demonstrated expertise in issues relating to the work of the
21 task force; and

22 (4) 17 members appointed by the Governor, who shall include:
23 three superintendents of schools, one each from an urban, suburban,
24 and rural school district; two elementary school principals, one of
25 whom is employed in a school district that provides full-day
26 kindergarten and one of whom is employed in a school district that
27 provides half-day kindergarten; two kindergarten teachers, one of
28 whom is employed in a school district that provides full-day
29 kindergarten and one of whom is employed in a school district that
30 provides half-day kindergarten; one member upon the
31 recommendation of the New Jersey Child Care Association; one
32 member upon the recommendation of the New Jersey Education
33 Association; one member upon the recommendation of the
34 American Federation of Teachers New Jersey; one member upon
35 the recommendation of the New Jersey School Boards Association;
36 one member upon the recommendation of the New Jersey Principals
37 and Supervisors Association; one member upon the
38 recommendation of the New Jersey Association of School
39 Administrators; one member upon the recommendation of the
40 Garden State Coalition of Schools; and three members of the public
41 with demonstrated expertise in issues relating to the work of the
42 task force, at least one of whom shall be a parent.

43 c. Appointments to the task force shall be made within 30 days
44 after the effective date of this act. Vacancies in the membership of
45 the task force shall be filled in the same manner as the original
46 appointments were made. Members of the task force shall serve
47 without compensation, but shall be reimbursed for necessary
48 expenditures incurred in the performance of their duties as members

1 of the task force within the limits of funds appropriated or
2 otherwise made available to the task force for its purposes.

3
4 2. The task force shall organize as soon as practicable
5 following the appointment of its members, but no later than 60 days
6 after the effective date of this act. The task force shall choose a
7 chairperson from among its members and shall appoint a secretary
8 who need not be a member of the task force. The presence of 11
9 members of the task force shall constitute a quorum. The task force
10 may conduct business without a quorum, but may only vote on
11 recommendations when a quorum is present.

12
13 3. The Department of Education shall provide such
14 stenographic, clerical, and other administrative assistants, and such
15 professional staff as the task force requires to carry out its work.
16 The task force also shall be entitled to call to its assistance and avail
17 itself of the services of the employees of any State, county, or
18 municipal department, board, bureau, commission, or agency as it
19 may require and as may be available for its purposes.

20
21 4. The task force shall study and evaluate issues associated
22 with the establishment and implementation of full-day kindergarten
23 throughout the State, and make recommendations regarding the
24 establishment of full-day kindergarten. The task force shall study
25 and consider issues including, but not limited to, the following:

26 a. review of existing research, studies, and data concerning
27 full-day kindergarten, including studies that examine the long-term
28 academic impact of full-day kindergarten, and studies that examine
29 the social and emotional impact of full-day kindergarten;

30 b. implementation considerations associated with full-day
31 kindergarten including, but not limited to, staffing needs, facility
32 space, and class size;

33 c. funding necessary for the establishment of full-day
34 kindergarten, including possible sources of funding;

35 d. curriculum comparisons between full-day kindergarten and
36 half-day kindergarten;

37 e. opinions and recommendations of parents and elementary
38 school teachers regarding full-day kindergarten, both in support of,
39 and opposed to, full-day kindergarten; and

40 f. the feasibility of offering full-day kindergarten in school
41 districts Statewide.

42
43 5. a. The task force shall issue a final report to the Governor,
44 and to the Legislature pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164
45 (C.52:14-19.1), no later than one year after the task force organizes.
46 The report shall contain the task force's findings and
47 recommendations regarding the establishment of full-day
48 kindergarten.

1 b. The task force shall expire 30 days after the issuance of its
2 final report.

3
4 6. This act shall take effect immediately.

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6
7 STATEMENT

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9 This bill establishes a 22-member task force to study and
10 evaluate issues associated with the establishment and
11 implementation of full-day kindergarten. The task force will be
12 comprised of: the Commissioner of Education; one public member
13 appointed by the President of the Senate; one public member
14 appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate; one public member
15 appointed by the Speaker of the General Assembly; one public
16 member appointed by the Minority Leader of the General
17 Assembly; and 17 members appointed by the Governor, including
18 three superintendents of schools, two elementary school principals,
19 two kindergarten teachers, one member upon the recommendation
20 of the New Jersey Child Care Association, one member upon the
21 recommendation of the New Jersey Education Association, one
22 member upon the recommendation of the American Federation of
23 Teachers New Jersey, one member upon the recommendation of the
24 New Jersey School Boards Association, one member upon the
25 recommendation of the New Jersey Principals and Supervisors
26 Association, one member upon the recommendation of the New
27 Jersey Association of School Administrators, one member upon the
28 recommendation of the Garden State Coalition of Schools, and three
29 members of the public, at least one of whom will be a parent.
30 Public members appointed to the task force will have expertise
31 related to the work of the task force.

32 The task force will study and consider issues including, but not
33 limited to:

- 34 - review of existing research, studies, and data concerning full-
35 day kindergarten, including studies that examine the long-
36 term academic impact and the social and emotional impact of
37 full-day kindergarten;
38 - implementation issues associated with full-day kindergarten,
39 including but not limited to, staffing needs, facility space,
40 and class size;
41 - funding needed for full-day kindergarten, including sources
42 of funding;
43 - curriculum comparisons between full-day kindergarten and
44 half-day kindergarten;
45 - opinions and recommendations of parents and elementary
46 school teachers regarding full-day kindergarten; and
47 - the feasibility of offering full-day kindergarten in school
48 districts Statewide.

1 The task force is required to issue a final report to the Governor
2 and the Legislature within one year of its organization, which
3 contains the task force's findings and recommendations regarding
4 the establishment of full-day kindergarten.