

ASSEMBLY, No. 2343

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 3, 2020

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

SYNOPSIS

Prohibits public school fund-raising activities which include unsupervised door-to-door sales by students.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 **AN ACT** concerning fund-raising activities by public school districts
2 and supplementing chapter 36 of Title 18A of the New Jersey
3 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 Legislature finds and declares that the past 25 years have
9 witnessed significant changes in the structure of communities and
10 families within the State; that the make-up of communities and
11 neighborhoods has become more fluid as increasing numbers of
12 people are required to move fairly frequently from one community
13 to another due to professional and occupational demands; that both
14 the rise in the number of families in which two parents are working
15 outside of the home, as well as the increase in the number of single
16 parent families in which the principal caretaker must be employed
17 outside of the home, have meant that fewer parents are available
18 during the day to provide direct supervision of their children's
19 activities; and that all of these factors make it advisable to re-
20 examine the fund-raising activities in which public school students
21 have been engaged to determine their appropriateness in light of
22 changing societal factors and to revise those practices when
23 necessary to better protect the health and safety of students.

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25 2. a. No public school or school-sponsored organization
26 including, but not limited to, a school sports team, band,
27 extracurricular activity club, booster club, or parent-teacher
28 organization shall engage in any fund-raising activity that includes
29 unsupervised door-to-door sales by students. For the purposes of
30 this act, a door-to-door sales activity is supervised only if it is
31 conducted under the direct supervision of an adult who is at least 21
32 years of age and who is approved by school officials to supervise
33 the activity.

34 As used in this section, "door-to-door sales" means the selling of
35 merchandise or the soliciting of funds off school grounds and
36 outside of the student's home in which the student travels from one
37 residence or business to another to raise funds for the school or
38 school-sponsored organization. "Door-to-door sales" shall not
39 include sales conducted by prior appointment at a pre-arranged
40 business meeting, such as the sale of sponsorships, advertising
41 space in a school publication, or other similar activity.

42 b. The Commissioner of Education shall monitor the compliance
43 of school districts with the provisions of this act. If the
44 commissioner finds that any district has violated the provisions of
45 this act, the commissioner shall suspend the district from engaging
46 in any fund-raising activity for at least one school year or for a
47 longer period as determined to be appropriate.

1 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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6 This bill prohibits school districts and school-sponsored
7 organizations from engaging in fund-raising activities which
8 include unsupervised door-to-door sales by students. Under the
9 bill, a door-to-door sales activity is supervised only if it is
10 conducted under the direct supervision of an adult who is at least 21
11 years of age and who has been approved by school officials to
12 supervise the activity. The bill defines door-to-door sales as the
13 selling of merchandise or the soliciting of funds off school grounds
14 and outside of the student's home in which the student travels from
15 one residence or business to another to raise funds for the school or
16 school-sponsored organization. The bill stipulates that "door-to-
17 door sales" does not, however, include sales conducted by prior
18 appointment at a pre-arranged business meeting, such as the sale of
19 sponsorships, advertising space in a school publication, or other
20 similar activities.

21 The bill directs the Commissioner of Education to monitor the
22 compliance of school districts with the bill's requirements. If the
23 commissioner finds that a school district has violated the
24 prohibition on door-to-door sales or sales incentives, then he must
25 suspend the district from engaging in all fund-raising activities for
26 at least one school year or such longer period as he determines is
27 appropriate.