

ASSEMBLY, No. 2983

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 20, 2020

Sponsored by:
Assemblyman JAY WEBBER
District 26 (Essex, Morris and Passaic)

SYNOPSIS

Allows Governor to remove executive county superintendent of schools at will.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning the removal of executive county
2 superintendents and amending N.J.S.18A:7-1.

3

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

6

7 1. N.J.S.18A:7-1 is amended to read as follows:

8 18A:7-1. a. The Governor, upon the recommendation of the
9 commissioner and with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall
10 appoint for each county, a suitable person, who holds an appropriate
11 certificate issued pursuant to this title and who has been a resident
12 of the State for at least three years immediately preceding the
13 appointment, to be the executive county superintendent of schools,
14 who shall serve**], unless sooner removed pursuant to law,]** at the
15 pleasure of the Governor for a term of three years. The
16 superintendent may be re-appointed by the Governor on the basis of
17 a satisfactory performance assessment required pursuant to
18 subsection b. of this section. A person who is serving as a county
19 superintendent of schools on the effective date of sections 42 to 58
20 of P.L.2007, c.63 (C.18A:7-11 et al.), shall be eligible for
21 appointment as the executive county superintendent of schools. The
22 executive county superintendent of schools shall report to the
23 Commissioner of Education or to a person designated by the
24 commissioner.

25 b. An executive county superintendent shall be subject to at
26 least one performance assessment during the three-year term. The
27 performance of the superintendent shall be assessed by the
28 Commissioner of Education based on the ability of the
29 superintendent to monitor and promote administrative and
30 operational efficiencies and cost savings within the school districts
31 located in the county, while enhancing the effectiveness of the
32 districts in providing a thorough and efficient system of education,
33 and on their monitoring of the school districts in the five key
34 components of school district effectiveness under the New Jersey
35 Quality Single Accountability Continuum: instruction and program;
36 personnel; fiscal management; operations; and governance. In
37 establishing the standards for assessing the performance of the
38 superintendent in facilitating administrative efficiencies, the
39 commissioner shall include such factors as administrator-to-teacher
40 ratios, administrator-to-student ratios, per-pupil administrative
41 expenditures, and improved student educational outcomes.

42 (cf: P.L.2007, c.63, s.42)

43

44 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 STATEMENT

2
3 This bill clarifies the position of executive county superintendent
4 of schools by stating that the position is an at will appointment and
5 consequently can be terminated without cause by the Governor at
6 any time before the expiration of the superintendent’s three year
7 term. In the event that the Governor exercises this authority, the
8 position is to be filled in the same manner as any other vacancy of
9 the position as described in N.J.S.18A:7-2 and section 55 of
10 P.L.2007, c.63 (C.18A:7-13).