

[Second Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 4454

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JULY 27, 2020

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Johnson, Assemblywomen Quijano and Jimenez**

SYNOPSIS

Requires school districts to include instruction on diversity and inclusion as part of implementation of New Jersey Student Learning Standards.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Senate Education Committee on December 7, 2020, with amendments.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 1/11/2021)

1 AN ACT concerning diversity and inclusion instruction in school
2 districts and supplementing chapter 35 of Title 18A of the New
3 Jersey Statutes.

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

7
8 1. a. Beginning in the 2021-2022 school year, each school district
9 shall incorporate instruction on diversity and inclusion ¹**into** in an
10 appropriate place in¹ the curriculum ¹**for** of¹ students in grades ²**[9]**
11 kindergarten² through 12 as part of the district's implementation of the
12 New Jersey Student Learning Standards ¹**in Comprehensive Health**
13 **and Physical Education**¹.

14 b. The instruction shall:

15 (1) highlight and promote diversity ¹, including economic
16 diversity¹, equity, inclusion, tolerance^{1,1} and belonging ¹**on topics**
17 **including:** in connection with¹ gender and sexual orientation¹**;** ¹
18 race and ethnicity¹**;** ¹ disabilities¹**;** and¹ religious tolerance;
19 ¹**and unconscious bias; and**¹

20 (2) examine the impact that unconscious bias and economic
21 disparities have at both an individual level and on society as a whole;
22 and

23 (3)¹ encourage safe, welcoming, and inclusive environments for
24 all students regardless of race or ethnicity, sexual and gender
25 identities, mental and physical disabilities, and religious beliefs.

26 c. The Commissioner of Education shall provide school districts
27 with sample learning activities and resources designed to promote
28 diversity and inclusion.

29

30 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.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Assembly AED committee amendments adopted October 22, 2020.

²Senate SED committee amendments adopted December 7, 2020.