

ASSEMBLY, No. 4529

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED AUGUST 13, 2020

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman SHANIQUE SPEIGHT

District 29 (Essex)

Assemblywoman MILA M. JASEY

District 27 (Essex and Morris)

Assemblyman RALPH R. CAPUTO

District 28 (Essex)

SYNOPSIS

Requires school district students, staff, and volunteers to have COVID-19 test prior to start of 2020-2021 school year.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 8/27/2020)

1 AN ACT concerning public schools and COVID-19 testing.

2

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

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6 1. a. A board of education shall require that each enrolled
7 student, school district employee, volunteer, and student teacher has
8 a COVID-19 test within no more than one week prior to the start of
9 the 2020-2021 school year. The board of education shall not allow
10 a student, school district employee, volunteer, or student teacher in
11 school buildings or on school grounds unless he provides evidence
12 of the test.

13 b. The Department of Education shall establish a COVID-19
14 test tracking system to be used by school districts to ensure
15 compliance with the provisions of this act.

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17 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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20 STATEMENT

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22 This bill provides that a board of education is to require that all
23 enrolled students, school district employees, volunteers, and student
24 teachers have a COVID-19 test within one week prior to the start of
25 the 2020-2021 school year. The board may not allow a student,
26 employee, volunteer, or student teacher in school buildings or on
27 school grounds unless he provides evidence of the test.

28 The bill directs the Department of Education to establish a
29 COVID-19 test tracking system that school districts will use to
30 ensure that each student, employee, volunteer, and student teacher
31 has had the required COVID-19 testing.

32 On June 26, 2020, the Department of Education issued its
33 guidance for reopening public schools: “The Road Back: Restart
34 and Recovery Plan for Education.” Based upon this guidance, in-
35 person instruction will resume across the State in various forms for
36 the 2020-2021 school year. As such, it is imperative that testing be
37 a part of the return to school in order to mitigate the potential
38 spread of the coronavirus disease 2019 and ensure the health and
39 safety of children, families, and the school community.