

ASSEMBLY, No. 5180

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED DECEMBER 21, 2020

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman RAJ MUKHERJI

District 33 (Hudson)

Assemblywoman ANGELA V. MCKNIGHT

District 31 (Hudson)

Assemblyman DANIEL R. BENSON

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Co-Sponsored by:

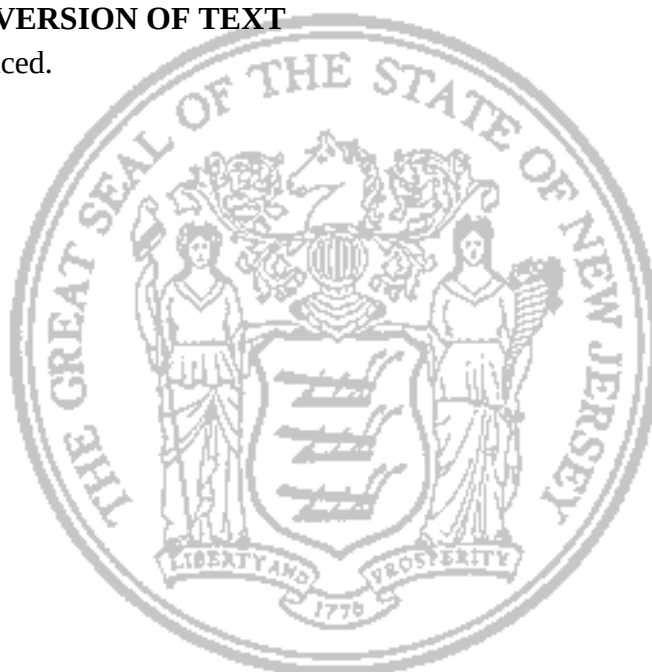
Assemblywoman Vainieri Huttle and Assemblyman Giblin

SYNOPSIS

Requires DOE to develop transition checklist for students with disabilities; requires DOE to maintain information on website concerning transition resources.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/5/2021)

1 **AN ACT** concerning transition planning for students with disabilities
2 and supplementing chapter 46 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. a. The Department of Education shall develop and distribute
9 to school districts a standardized checklist for use in helping
10 students with disabilities prepare for the transition from secondary
11 school to post-secondary activities and goals. The checklist shall
12 consist of discussion topics designed to assist a student who has an
13 individualized education program (IEP) in planning for the future in
14 multiple areas including, but not limited to, post-secondary
15 education and training, employment, healthcare, legal status
16 including issues related to independence, guardianship, and power
17 of attorney, social services including Social Security and Medicaid,
18 community participation, and independent living. The checklist
19 shall also include timelines and current contact information for
20 agencies and community resources that are available to assist
21 students with disabilities in transitioning to post-secondary adult
22 life.

23 b. Beginning with the school year when a student who has an
24 IEP will turn age 16, or younger if deemed appropriate by the IEP
25 team, a student's IEP team shall review and discuss the checklist
26 developed pursuant to subsection a. of this section with the student
27 and the student's parent at least twice per year. The IEP team shall
28 consider the elements contained in the checklist, based on the
29 individual student's needs, when developing the plan of transition
30 services to be included in the student's IEP.

31
32 2. The Department of Education shall make available on its
33 website current information concerning transition resources that
34 may assist students with disabilities in transitioning from secondary
35 school to post-secondary activities and goals. The purpose of the
36 information shall be to provide students, parents, school districts,
37 and members of the public with easily accessible information on
38 post-secondary requirements and opportunities, including agencies,
39 community resources, and supports that are available to assist
40 students with disabilities in progressing towards post-secondary
41 goals in multiple areas including, but not limited to, post-secondary
42 education and training, employment, healthcare, legal status
43 including issues related to independence, guardianship, and power
44 of attorney, social services including Social Security and Medicaid,
45 community participation, and independent living. The department
46 shall periodically review and update the information to ensure that
47 it reflects the most current information on available transition
48 resources.

1 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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6 This bill requires the Department of Education to develop a
7 standardized checklist for school districts to be used in helping
8 students with disabilities prepare for the transition from secondary
9 school to post-secondary activities and goals. The checklist will
10 consist of discussion topics designed to assist a student who has an
11 individualized education program (IEP) in planning for the future in
12 multiple areas including, but not limited to, post-secondary
13 education and training, employment, healthcare, legal status
14 including issues related to independence, guardianship, and power
15 of attorney, social services including Social Security and Medicaid,
16 community participation, and independent living. The checklist
17 will also include timelines and current contact information for
18 agencies and community resources that are available to assist
19 students with disabilities in transitioning to post-secondary adult
20 life.

21 The bill directs a student's IEP team to review and discuss the
22 checklist with the student and the student's parent at least twice per
23 year, beginning with the school year when the student will turn age
24 16, or younger where appropriate. The IEP team would be required
25 to consider the elements contained in the checklist, based on the
26 individual student's needs, when developing the plan of transition
27 services to be included in the student's IEP. Under current State
28 Board of Education regulations at N.J.A.C.6A:14-3.7(e)12, the IEP
29 for a student who is age 16 or older must include a statement of
30 transition services intended to assist the student in preparing for
31 post-secondary goals such as education, vocational training,
32 employment, and independent living.

33 In addition, the bill requires the Department of Education to
34 make current information available on its website concerning
35 transition resources that may assist students with disabilities in
36 transitioning from secondary school to post-secondary activities and
37 goals. The purpose of the information is to provide students,
38 parents, school districts, and members of the public with easily
39 accessible information on post-secondary requirements and
40 opportunities, including agencies, community resources, and
41 supports that are available to assist students with disabilities in
42 progressing towards post-secondary goals in the areas of education,
43 training, employment, healthcare, legal status, social services,
44 community participation, and independent living.