

P.L. 2020, CHAPTER 85, *approved September 14, 2020*
Senate, No. 2573 (*First Reprint*)

1 **AN ACT** establishing the position of State School Nurse Consultant
2 in the Department of Education and supplementing chapter 4 of
3 Title 18A of the New Jersey 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 Commissioner of Education shall appoint a State
9 School Nurse Consultant. The State School Nurse Consultant shall be
10 a ¹New Jersey¹ certified school nurse who holds a master's degree ¹in
11 nursing and has management experience and leadership and education
12 administration training or skills ¹and has demonstrated higher-level
13 leadership with recent school nursing experience¹. The State School
14 Nurse Consultant shall work with school districts and school nurses to
15 ¹promote quality school nursing services and ¹facilitate best practices
16 by advancing comprehensive¹ school health ¹programs ¹services¹
17 that address the ¹broad¹ health ¹needs ¹and wellness¹ of ¹all¹
18 students. The State School Nurse Consultant, in performing the duties
19 of the position, shall collaborate with the Department of Health ¹and
20 the New Jersey State Board of Nursing ¹, other State agencies, and
21 associated stakeholders¹.

22 b. It shall be the duty of the State School Nurse Consultant to:

23 (1) Serve as a liaison and resource expert in school nursing and
24 ¹comprehensive¹ school health ¹program areas ¹services¹ for ¹local,
25 regional ¹county¹, State, and national school health ¹care providers
26 organizations¹, and policy setting groups;

27 (2) Provide consultation and technical assistance to ¹support¹
28 school districts ¹, parents, ¹in facilitating parent¹ and community
29 ¹members ¹engagement¹;

30 (3) Coordinate school health program activities with public health,
31 social services, environmental, and educational agencies as well as
32 other public and private entities;

33 (4) Monitor, interpret, synthesize, and disseminate relevant
34 information associated with changes in health and medical care, school
35 nursing practice, legislation, and legal issues that impact schools;

36 (5) Facilitate the development of policies, standards, and
37 guidelines ¹and interpret updates and disseminate policies, standards,
38 guidelines, and procedures¹ to enhance ¹coordinated
39 comprehensive¹ school health ¹programs ¹services¹;

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:

¹Senate SED committee amendments adopted June 25, 2020.

(6) Foster and promote **‘[staff] professional’** development for school nurses, which may include planning **‘[and providing orientation]’**, coordinating^{1,1} or providing educational **‘[offerings] guidance’**, and networking with universities and other providers of continuing education to meet identified needs;

(7) Promote quality assurance **‘[in] of comprehensive’** school health services by **‘[initiating and coordinating a quality assurance program that includes needs assessment, data collection and analysis, and evidenced-based practice] advocating for the use of evidence-based school nursing practice and participating in the National Association of School Nurses data collection initiatives’**;

(8) Participate in State-level public interagency partnerships and private partnerships with Statewide stakeholders to foster **‘[a coordinated] comprehensive’** school health **‘[program] services’**, representing school nurses in multi-disciplinary collaborations;

(9) Initiate, participate in, and utilize research studies related to **‘[a coordinated] comprehensive’** school health **‘[program] services’**, the health needs of children and youth, school nursing practice, and related issues; and

(10) Serve as a liaison regarding school health issues with the Department of Health and the Legislature.

2. The State School Nurse Consultant shall report annually to the Governor, and to the Legislature pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1). The report shall include a summary of the activities of the State School Nurse Consultant during the year, and any specific recommendations deemed appropriate and necessary concerning school **‘[nurse] nursing’** services and **‘comprehensive’** school health service programs.

3. This act shall take effect immediately.

Establishes position of State School Nurse Consultant in DOE to facilitate best practices in school nursing by advancing comprehensive school health services.