

# SENATE, No. 585

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator JAMES BEACH**

**District 6 (Burlington and Camden)**

**Senator M. TERESA RUIZ**

**District 29 (Essex)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Senators Vitale, Bateman, T.Kean, Cruz-Perez, Sacco, Codey, Weinberg,  
Stack, Pennacchio, Thompson, Turner and Madden**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires public school student with concussion to be evaluated by physician or other licensed health care provider before return to school and return to physical activity at school.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1   **AN ACT** concerning the health of students and supplementing  
2       chapter 40 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

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

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7       1. a. A student enrolled in a school district who sustains a  
8       concussion shall receive an evaluation by a physician or other licensed  
9       health care provider trained in the evaluation and management of  
10      concussions, and written clearance from a physician trained in the  
11      evaluation and management of concussions to return to school. In the  
12      event that the physician provides notice that the student requires  
13      restrictions or limitations, the school district 504 team as defined in  
14      N.J.A.C.6A:8-1.3 shall immediately implement the restrictions or  
15      limitations and shall notify all teachers and staff who have contact  
16      with students of the restrictions or limitations. The school district's  
17      504 team, in consultation with the physician who provided notice,  
18      shall promptly identify the manner in which the restrictions or  
19      limitations will be provided to the student during recovery and the  
20      need for the continuation or adjustment of the restrictions or  
21      limitations, and to determine the duration of the restrictions or  
22      limitations.

23      b. A student enrolled in a school district who sustains a  
24      concussion is prohibited from engaging in any physical activity at  
25      school including, but not limited to, recess, physical education, or  
26      intramural sports, and shall not participate in any physical activity at  
27      school until the student is evaluated by a physician or other licensed  
28      health care provider trained in the evaluation and management of  
29      concussions and receives written clearance from a physician trained in  
30      the evaluation and management of concussions to participate in  
31      physical activity.

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33      2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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#### STATEMENT

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38      This bill provides that a student enrolled in a school district who  
39      sustains a concussion must receive an evaluation by a physician or  
40      other licensed health care provider trained in the evaluation and  
41      management of concussions and written clearance from one of these  
42      physicians in order to return to school. In the event that the  
43      physician provides notice that the student requires restrictions or  
44      limitations, the school district 504 team must immediately  
45      implement the restrictions or limitations and notify all teachers and  
46      staff who have contact with the student of the restrictions or  
47      limitations. The school district's 504 team, in consultation with the  
48      physician who provided notice, would promptly identify the manner

1 in which the restrictions or limitations would be provided to the  
2 student during recovery and the need for the continuation or  
3 adjustment of the restrictions or limitations, and to determine the  
4 duration of the restrictions or limitations.

5 The bill also provides that a student enrolled in a school district  
6 who sustains a concussion is prohibited from engaging in any  
7 physical activity at school including, but not limited to, recess,  
8 physical education, or intramural sports. The student may not  
9 participate in any physical activity until he is evaluated by a  
10 physician or other licensed health care provider trained in the  
11 evaluation and management of concussions and he receives written  
12 clearance from the physician to participate.