

SENATE, No. 674

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator SAMUEL D. THOMPSON

District 12 (Burlington, Middlesex, Monmouth and Ocean)

SYNOPSIS

Requires school districts to provide instruction on interacting with law enforcement as part of New Jersey Student Learning Standards in Social Studies.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 **AN ACT** concerning the New Jersey Student Learning Standards and
2 supplementing chapter 35 of Title 18A of the New Jersey
3 Statutes.

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

7
8 1. Beginning with the 2018-2019 school year, each school
9 district shall incorporate instruction on interacting with a law
10 enforcement official in a manner marked by mutual cooperation and
11 respect , and on the rights of individuals when interacting with a
12 law enforcement official, as part of the district's implementation of
13 the New Jersey Student Learning Standards in Social Studies. The
14 instruction shall be included in an appropriate place in the
15 curriculum of elementary school, middle school, and high school
16 students. The instruction shall provide students with information
17 on:

18 a. the role and responsibilities of a law enforcement official in
19 providing for public safety; and

20 b. an individual's responsibilities to comply with a directive
21 from a law enforcement official and an individual's rights under
22 law in interacting with a law enforcement official.

23 The Commissioner of Education shall appoint an advisory
24 committee to assist in the development of a curriculum for the
25 implementation of the instructional requirement. The advisory
26 committee shall include one representative of each of the following
27 organizations selected by that organization: the New Jersey State
28 Policemen's Benevolent Association, the State Fraternal Order of
29 Police, the American Civil Liberties Union of New Jersey, the
30 NAACP New Jersey State Conference, the National Organization of
31 Black Law Enforcement Executives, the New Jersey Institute for
32 Social Justice, the New Jersey Council for Social Studies, the New
33 Jersey Education Association, and the American Federation of
34 Teachers – New Jersey.

35 The curriculum shall consist of two parts, with one part that
36 includes age-appropriate instruction for students enrolled in grades
37 kindergarten through four, and one part designed for the more
38 rigorous instruction of students enrolled in grades five through 12.

39
40 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

41

42

43

STATEMENT

44

45 This bill requires school districts to provide instruction on
46 interacting with law enforcement in a manner marked by mutual
47 cooperation and respect, and on the rights of individuals when
48 interacting with a law enforcement official, as part of the

1 implementation of the New Jersey Student Learning Standards in
2 Social Studies, beginning with the 2018-2019 school year. The
3 instruction must provide students with information on: the role and
4 responsibilities of a law enforcement official in providing for public
5 safety; an individual's responsibilities to comply with a directive
6 from a law enforcement official; and an individual's rights under
7 law in interacting with a law enforcement official.

8 The bill directs the Commissioner of Education to appoint an
9 advisory committee to assist in the development of a curriculum for
10 the implementation of the instructional requirement, and details the
11 organizations that are to serve on the advisory committee. The bill
12 specifies that the curriculum must consist of two parts, with one
13 part that includes age-appropriate instruction for students enrolled
14 in grades kindergarten through four, and one part designed for the
15 more rigorous instruction of students enrolled in grades five
16 through 12.