

SENATE, No. 678

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 11th grade students to complete civics course as part of high school graduation requirements.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 **AN ACT** concerning civics instruction in high school and
2 supplementing chapter 7C 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 in the 2020-2021 school year, each board of
9 education shall provide a United States civics course for all 11th
10 grade students. The course shall prepare students to become
11 effective citizens, voters, and members of their communities. The
12 course shall include content on the fundamental principles and
13 processes of democracy and the governments of the United States,
14 New Jersey, and counties and municipalities located in the State.

15
16 2. Beginning with the 2020-2021 grade 11 class, the State Board
17 of Education shall require that the local graduation requirements
18 adopted by a board of education include one course in United States
19 civics, as developed pursuant to section 1 of this act.

20
21 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

22

23

24

STATEMENT

25

26 This bill provides that beginning in the 2020-2021 school year,
27 each board of education must provide a United States civics course
28 for all 11th grade students. The course must prepare students to
29 become effective citizens, voters, and members of their
30 communities. The course must include content on the fundamental
31 principles and processes of democracy, and the governments of the
32 United States, New Jersey, and counties and municipalities located
33 in the State.

34 The bill also provides that beginning with the 2020-2021 grade 11
35 class, the State Board of Education must require that the local
36 graduation requirements adopted by a board of education include one
37 course in United States civics, as developed pursuant to the bill's
38 provisions.