SENATE, No. 1970

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 25, 2020

Sponsored by:
Senator VIN GOPAL
District 11 (Monmouth)
Senator SHIRLEY K. TURNER
District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

SYNOPSIS

Requires boards of education to include instruction, and adopt instructional materials, on climate change.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/16/2020)

AN ACT concerning certain instruction and instructional materials in public schools and supplementing chapter 35 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

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

1. A board of education shall include information on climate change in the curriculum of elementary school, middle school, and high school students as part of the district's implementation of the New Jersey Student Learning Standards in Science.

2. A board of education shall have policies and procedures in place pertaining to the selection of instructional materials to implement the requirements of section 1 of this act. When adopting instructional materials for use in the schools of the district, a board of education shall adopt instructional materials that accurately portray changes in weather and climate patterns over time, the impacts of human activity on changes in weather and climate patterns, and the effects of climate change on people and resources.

3. This act shall take effect immediately and shall first apply to the first full school year following the date of enactment.

STATEMENT

This bill requires each board of education to provide instruction on climate change in the curriculum of elementary school, middle school, and high school students as part of the district's implementation of the New Jersey Student Learning Standards in Science.

The bill provides that when adopting instructional materials for use in the schools of the district, a board of education is required to adopt instructional materials that accurately portray changes in weather and climate patterns over time, the impacts of human activity on changes in weather and climate patterns, and the effects of climate change on people and resources.