

SENATE, No. 2282

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 16, 2020

Sponsored by:

Senator M. TERESA RUIZ

District 29 (Essex)

Senator THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.

District 21 (Morris, Somerset and Union)

Co-Sponsored by:

**Senators Cruz-Perez, Addiego, Madden, Scutari, Brown, Holzapfel, Singer
and Turner**

SYNOPSIS

Establishes Bridging the Digital Divide in Schools Grant Program in DOE to provide and expand access to technology and equipment for students in certain school districts.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/19/2020)

1 **AN ACT** establishing the Bridging the Digital Divide in Schools
2 Grant Program and supplementing chapter 6 of Title 18A of the
3 New Jersey Statutes.

4

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

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8 1. a. There is established in the Department of Education the
9 “Bridging the Digital Divide in Schools Grant Program.” The
10 purpose of the program shall be to allocate grant moneys to school
11 districts, charter schools, renaissance schools, and nonpublic
12 schools to provide or expand access to technology and
13 technological equipment, such as laptops, tablets, hot spot access
14 devices, and other electronic mobile devices, for students who do
15 not have the means to purchase such items or who do not have
16 access to the Internet at home.

17 b. A grant received by a school district, charter school,
18 renaissance school, or nonpublic school shall be specifically used
19 for the purchase of, or for reimbursement of the school district’s or
20 school’s purchase of, technology and technological equipment
21 including, but not limited to, laptops, tablets, hot spot access
22 devices, and any other electronic mobile devices that can be used by
23 students in the school district or school for the furtherance of their
24 education either in the school setting or at home.

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26 2. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the
27 Department of Education such amounts as are necessary to
28 effectuate the provisions of this act, subject to the approval of the
29 Director of the Division of Budget and Accounting in the
30 Department of the Treasury, to be credited to the “Emergency
31 Fund.”

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33 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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38 This bill establishes the “Bridging the Digital Divide in Schools
39 Grant Program” in the Department of Education. The purpose of
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41 charter schools, renaissance schools, and nonpublic schools to
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