

[Second Reprint]
SENATE, No. 2401

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MAY 7, 2020

Sponsored by:

Senator JAMES BEACH

District 6 (Burlington and Camden)

Senator SHIRLEY K. TURNER

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

Co-Sponsored by:

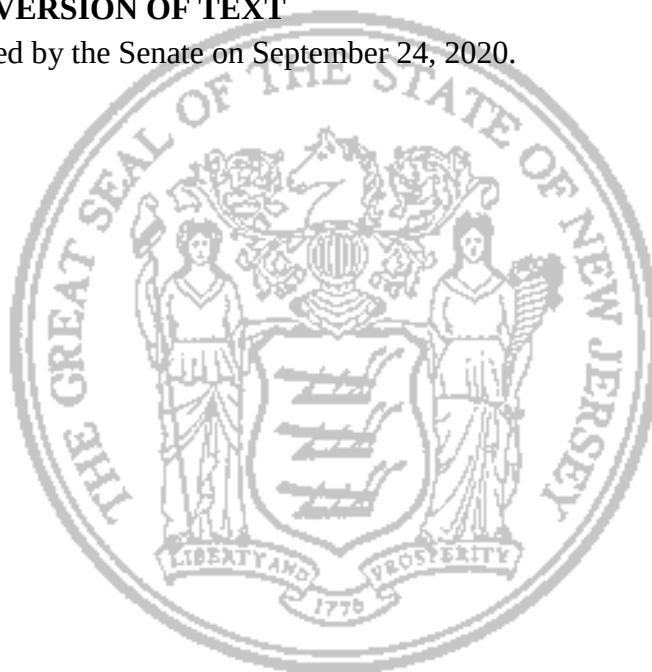
Senator Pou

SYNOPSIS

Prohibits public school students and employees from immediately returning to school after traveling to certain places during public health emergencies.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As amended by the Senate on September 24, 2020.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 9/24/2020)

1 AN ACT concerning the presence of certain persons in public
 2 schools during a public health emergency and supplementing
 3 chapter 40 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

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

7
 8 1. a. If a student, teaching staff member, or other employee of
 9 a school district travels outside of the United States ¹or inside of a
 10 designated state¹ during a state of public health emergency, as
 11 declared by the Governor pursuant to the “Emergency Health
 12 Powers Act,” P.L.2005, c.222 (C.26:13-1 et seq.) due to the spread
 13 of a contagious disease, then the person shall not return to the
 14 public school until the termination of the public health emergency,
 15 ¹**or** the completion of 14 calendar days following the date of
 16 return to the ¹**United States** State of New Jersey, ²**or**² the
 17 removal of the designated state from the quarantine travel
 18 advisory¹, ²or the receipt of a negative test for the contagious
 19 disease following the date of return to the State of New Jersey,²
 20 whichever occurs first.

21 b. A public school student whose absence is mandated pursuant
 22 to subsection a. of this section shall have the absence recorded as an
 23 excused absence on the student’s attendance record or on that of
 24 any group or class of which the student is a member. ¹**Any**
 25 transcript, application, employment form, or any similar form on
 26 which information concerning a student’s attendance record is
 27 requested shall not include information concerning absences
 28 mandated pursuant to subsection a. of this subsection.¹

29 c. ¹**A** teaching staff member or other employee of a school
 30 district whose absence is mandated pursuant to subsection a. of this
 31 section shall be entitled to compensation, benefits, and emoluments
 32 as if the person had performed the work during the period of
 33 absence. Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit,
 34 supersede, or preempt the rights, privileges, compensation,
 35 remedies, and procedures afforded to a teaching staff member or
 36 other employee of a school district, or a collective bargaining unit
 37 under federal or State law or any provision of a collective
 38 negotiations agreement entered into by the school district.¹ A
 39 student, teaching staff member, or other employee of a school
 40 district may participate in virtual or remote instruction during any
 41 period in which the person’s physical absence is mandated pursuant
 42 to subsection a. of this section.

43 d. As used in this section:

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Senate SED committee amendments adopted August 20, 2020.

²Senate floor amendments adopted September 24, 2020.

1 “Designated state” means any state or territory of the United
2 States that is included in a quarantine travel advisory.

3 “Quarantine travel advisory” means a travel advisory issued by
4 the Governor or Department of Health that requires or encourages
5 persons to be quarantined for 14 or more days after travel to a
6 designated state, which travel advisory shall include, but not be
7 limited to, the 14-day quarantine travel advisory issued jointly by
8 the Governors of the State of New Jersey, the State of New York,
9 and the State of Connecticut following the outbreak of the COVID-
10 19 pandemic.¹

11

12 2. This act shall take effect immediately.