

[First Reprint]

SENATE, No. 2573

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 15, 2020

Sponsored by:

Senator M. TERESA RUIZ

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Senator RICHARD J. CODEY

District 27 (Essex and Morris)

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District 18 (Middlesex)

Assemblywoman MILA M. JASEY

District 27 (Essex and Morris)

Assemblywoman PAMELA R. LAMPITT

District 6 (Burlington and Camden)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senators Addiego, Turner, Assemblywoman Speight, Assemblyman Benson and Assemblywoman Quijano

SYNOPSIS

Establishes position of State School Nurse Consultant in DOE to facilitate best practices in school nursing by advancing comprehensive school health services.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Senate Education Committee on June 25, 2020, with amendments.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 7/30/2020)

1 AN ACT establishing the position of State School Nurse Consultant
 2 in the Department of Education and supplementing chapter 4 of
 3 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. The Commissioner of Education shall appoint a State
 9 School Nurse Consultant. The State School Nurse Consultant shall be
 10 a ¹New Jersey¹ certified school nurse who holds a master's degree ¹**[in**
 11 nursing and has management experience and leadership and education
 12 administration training or skills] and has demonstrated higher-level
 13 leadership with recent school nursing experience¹. The State School
 14 Nurse Consultant shall work with school districts and school nurses to
 15 ¹**[promote quality school nursing services and] facilitate best practices**
 16 by advancing comprehensive¹ school health ¹**[programs] services**¹
 17 that address the ¹**[broad]**¹ health ¹**[needs] and wellness**¹ of ¹all¹
 18 students. The State School Nurse Consultant, in performing the duties
 19 of the position, shall collaborate with the Department of Health ¹**[and**
 20 the New Jersey State Board of Nursing] , other State agencies, and
 21 associated stakeholders¹.

22 b. It shall be the duty of the State School Nurse Consultant to:

23 (1) Serve as a liaison and resource expert in school nursing and
 24 ¹comprehensive¹ school health ¹**[program areas] services**¹ for ¹**[local,**
 25 regional] county¹, State, and national school health ¹**[care providers]**
 26 organizations¹, and policy setting groups;

27 (2) Provide consultation and technical assistance to ¹support¹
 28 school districts ¹**[, parents,] in facilitating parent**¹ and community
 29 ¹**[members] engagement**¹;

30 (3) Coordinate school health program activities with public health,
 31 social services, environmental, and educational agencies as well as
 32 other public and private entities;

33 (4) Monitor, interpret, synthesize, and disseminate relevant
 34 information associated with changes in health and medical care, school
 35 nursing practice, legislation, and legal issues that impact schools;

36 (5) Facilitate the development of policies, standards, and
 37 guidelines ¹**[and interpret updates and disseminate policies, standards,**
 38 guidelines, and procedures]¹ to enhance ¹**[coordinated]**
 39 comprehensive¹ school health ¹**[programs] services**¹;

40 (6) Foster and promote ¹**[staff] professional**¹ development for
 41 school nurses, which may include planning ¹**[and providing**
 42 orientation]¹, coordinating¹, ¹or providing educational ¹**[offerings]**
 43 guidance¹, and networking with universities and other providers of
 44 continuing education to meet identified needs;

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 June 25, 2020.

(7) Promote quality assurance ¹['in] of comprehensive¹ school health services by ¹['initiating and coordinating a quality assurance program that includes needs assessment, data collection and analysis, and evidenced-based practice] advocating for the use of evidence-based school nursing practice and participating in the National Association of School Nurses data collection initiatives¹;

(8) Participate in State-level public interagency partnerships and private partnerships with Statewide stakeholders to foster ¹['a coordinated] comprehensive¹ school health ¹['program] services¹, representing school nurses in multi-disciplinary collaborations;

(9) Initiate, participate in, and utilize research studies related to ¹['a coordinated] comprehensive¹ school health ¹['program] services¹, the health needs of children and youth, school nursing practice, and related issues; and

(10) Serve as a liaison regarding school health issues with the Department of Health and the Legislature.

2. The State School Nurse Consultant shall report annually to the Governor, and to the Legislature pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1). The report shall include a summary of the activities of the State School Nurse Consultant during the year, and any specific recommendations deemed appropriate and necessary concerning school ¹['nurse] nursing¹ services and ¹comprehensive¹ school health service programs.

3. This act shall take effect immediately.