

SENATE, No. 2642

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 30, 2020

Sponsored by:

Senator JAMES W. HOLZAPFEL

District 10 (Ocean)

SYNOPSIS

Requires school districts to provide instruction on the dangers of texting while driving as part of the New Jersey Student Learning Standards in Comprehensive Health and Physical Education.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 **AN ACT** concerning driver safety instruction in public school
2 districts and supplementing chapter 35 of Title 18A of the New
3 Jersey Statutes.

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

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8 1. a. Beginning with the 2021-2022 school year, each school
9 district shall incorporate instruction on the dangers of cell phone
10 usage and text messaging while driving into the health education
11 curriculum for students in grades 9 through 12 as part of the
12 district's implementation of the New Jersey Student Learning
13 Standards in Comprehensive Health and Physical Education.

14 b. The instruction shall provide students with:

15 (1) information concerning the correlation between distracted
16 driving and erratic driving behavior, such as lane-weaving and
17 sudden speed changes, and driving accidents; and

18 (2) statistics concerning the number of driving accidents,
19 injuries, and fatalities resulting from cell phone usage and text
20 messaging while driving.

21 c. The Commissioner of Education shall provide school
22 districts with sample learning activities and resources designed to
23 promote awareness of the dangers associated with cell phone usage
24 and text messaging while driving.

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26 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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31 This bill requires school districts to provide instruction on the
32 dangers of cell phone usage and text messaging while driving as
33 part of the implementation of the New Jersey Student Learning
34 Standards in Comprehensive Health and Physical Education. The
35 instruction will provide students in grades 9 through 12 with:
36 information concerning the correlation between distracted driving
37 and erratic driving behavior, such as lane-weaving and sudden
38 speed changes, and driving accidents; and statistics concerning the
39 number of driving accidents, injuries and fatalities resulting from
40 cell phone usage and text messaging while driving.

41 Under the bill, the Commissioner of Education will provide
42 school districts with sample learning activities and resources
43 designed to promote awareness of the dangers associated with cell
44 phone usage and text messaging while driving.