

SENATE, No. 2781

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED AUGUST 3, 2020

Sponsored by:

Senator RICHARD J. CODEY

District 27 (Essex and Morris)

Senator BOB SMITH

District 17 (Middlesex and Somerset)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senator Singleton

SYNOPSIS

Requires school districts to provide instruction on diversity and inclusion as part of New Jersey Student Learning Standards in Comprehensive Health and Physical Education.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 8/27/2020)

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

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

7
8 1. a. Beginning in the 2021-2022 school year, each school
9 district shall incorporate instruction on diversity and inclusion into
10 the curriculum for students in grades 9 through 12 as part of the
11 district's implementation of the New Jersey Student Learning
12 Standards in Comprehensive Health and Physical Education.

13 b. The instruction shall:

14 (1) highlight and promote diversity, equity, inclusion, tolerance
15 and belonging on topics including: gender and sexual orientation;
16 race and ethnicity; disabilities; religious tolerance; and unconscious
17 bias; and

18 (2) encourage safe, welcoming, and inclusive environments for
19 all students regardless of race or ethnicity, sexual and gender
20 identities, mental and physical disabilities, and religious beliefs.

21 c. The Commissioner of Education shall provide school
22 districts with sample learning activities and resources designed to
23 promote diversity and inclusion.

24
25 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

26

27

28

STATEMENT

29

30 This bill requires school districts to provide instruction on
31 diversity and inclusion as part of the implementation of the New
32 Jersey Student Learning Standards in Comprehensive Health and
33 Physical Education for students in grades 9 through 12. The
34 instruction is to:

35 • highlight and promote diversity, equity, inclusion, tolerance
36 and belonging on topics including: gender and sexual
37 orientation; race and ethnicity; disabilities; religious
38 tolerance; and unconscious bias; and

39 • encourage safe, welcoming, and inclusive environments for
40 all students regardless of race or ethnicity, sexual and gender
41 identities, mental and physical disabilities, and religious
42 beliefs.

43 Under the bill, the Commissioner of Education will provide
44 school districts with sample learning activities and resources
45 designed to promote diversity and inclusion.