

[First Reprint]

**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)**

**Senator M. TERESA RUIZ**

**District 29 (Essex)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

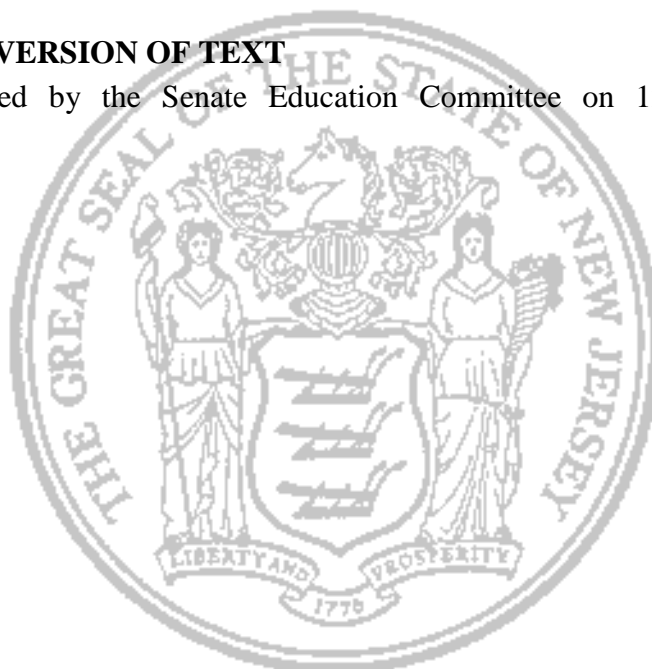
**Senators Singleton and Gopal**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires school districts to include instruction on diversity and inclusion as part of implementation of New Jersey Student Learning Standards.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As reported by the Senate Education Committee on 12/7/2020, with amendments.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/17/2020)**

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 district  
9 shall incorporate instruction on diversity and inclusion <sup>1</sup>**[into]** in an  
10 appropriate place in<sup>1</sup> the curriculum <sup>1</sup>**[for]** of<sup>1</sup> students in grades <sup>1</sup>**[9]**  
11 kindergarten<sup>1</sup> through 12 as part of the district's implementation of the  
12 New Jersey Student Learning Standards <sup>1</sup>**[in Comprehensive Health**  
13 **and Physical Education]**<sup>1</sup>.

14 b. The instruction shall:

15 (1) highlight and promote diversity <sup>1</sup>, including economic  
16 diversity<sup>1</sup>, equity, inclusion, tolerance <sup>1,1</sup> and belonging <sup>1</sup>**[on topics**  
17 **including:]** in connection with<sup>1</sup> gender and sexual orientation <sup>1</sup>**[;]** <sup>1</sup>  
18 race and ethnicity <sup>1</sup>**[;]** <sup>1</sup> disabilities <sup>1</sup>**[;]** and<sup>1</sup> religious tolerance;  
19 <sup>1</sup>**[and unconscious bias; and]**<sup>1</sup>

20 (2) examine the impact that unconscious bias and economic  
21 disparities have at both an individual level and on society as a whole;  
22 and

23 (3)<sup>1</sup> encourage safe, welcoming, and inclusive environments for  
24 all students regardless of race or ethnicity, sexual and gender  
25 identities, mental and physical disabilities, and religious beliefs.

26 c. The Commissioner of Education shall provide school districts  
27 with sample learning activities and resources designed to promote  
28 diversity and inclusion.

29

30 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

**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:

<sup>1</sup>Senate SED committee amendments adopted 12/7/2020.