

[Second Reprint]

SENATE, No. 3214

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED DECEMBER 7, 2020

Sponsored by:

Senator M. TERESA RUIZ

District 29 (Essex)

Senator SHIRLEY K. TURNER

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

Co-Sponsored by:

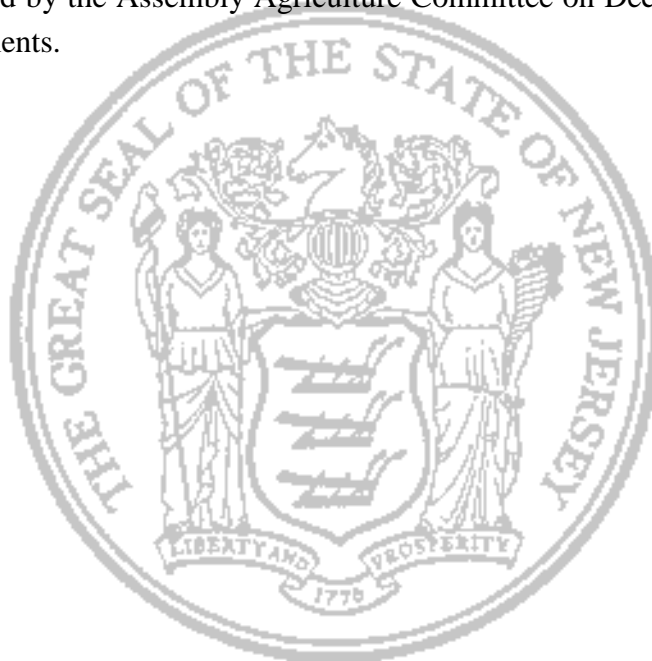
Senators A.M.Bucco, Singleton, Diegnan and Brown

SYNOPSIS

Requires Commissioner of Education to prepare learning loss report and report on public school operations during COVID-19 public health emergency.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Assembly Agriculture Committee on December 9, 2021, with amendments.



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

1 AN ACT concerning public schooling during the COVID-19 public
2 health emergency.

3

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

6

7 1. a. The Commissioner of Education shall require each school
8 district to submit data on student academic outcomes within 30 days
9 of the effective date of this act. The data shall be used by the
10 commissioner to develop a learning loss report that identifies and
11 quantifies the impact of the COVID-19 public health emergency on
12 student academic outcomes.

13 The data shall be provided for all students enrolled in the school
14 district in the time period beginning on the date of the school
15 district's closure in March of 2020 and ending on the effective date
16 of this act, unless otherwise specified by the commissioner.

17 b. ¹**[Within 60 days of the effective date of this act]** By May
18 31, ²**[2021¹]** 2022², the Commissioner of Education shall prepare
19 and submit to the Governor and to the Legislature, pursuant to
20 section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), a learning loss report
21 that summarizes the data collected pursuant to subsection a. of this
22 section. The learning loss report shall:

23 (1) identify and quantify the impact of the COVID-19 public
24 health emergency on overall student academic outcomes, and shall
25 include an analysis disaggregated by district size, grade level, and
26 academic subject, where practicable; and

27 (2) identify and quantify the impact of the COVID-19 public
28 health emergency on student achievement disparities that existed
29 prior to the public health emergency, and shall include an analysis
30 of student academic outcomes disaggregated by race, ethnicity,
31 gender, eligibility for free or reduced price lunch under the National
32 School Lunch Program, eligibility for special education services,
33 and English language learner designation, where practicable.

34 c. The commissioner's use of data collected pursuant to this
35 section shall be restricted to the purposes of this section.

36

37 2. a. The Commissioner of Education shall require each school
38 district to submit data and information related to the continuation of
39 school services during the COVID-19 public health emergency.
40 The school district shall submit the data and information to the
41 commissioner within 90 days of the effective date of this act. The
42 data and information shall be provided for the time period
43 beginning on the date of the school district's closure in March of
44 2020 and ending on the effective date of this act. The data and
45 information shall include, but need not be limited to:

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:

¹Assembly floor amendments adopted March 25, 2021.

²Assembly AAN committee amendments adopted December 9, 2021.

- 1 (1) the dates of any extended and intermittent pauses of
2 academic instruction taken as a result of the COVID-19 public
3 health emergency;
 - 4 (2) a description of the instructional format provided by the
5 school district, such as remote, hybrid, or in-person;
 - 6 (3) for any remote learning provided, data on the amount of
7 class time students spent in synchronous and asynchronous learning
8 formats;
 - 9 (4) data on class sizes for each instructional format used by the
10 district and the amount of any small group or one-on-one
11 instruction delivered;
 - 12 (5) the percentage of students and teachers with access to
13 reliable Internet and technology at the beginning of the reporting
14 period and at the time of reporting, and a description of the school
15 district's efforts to ensure all teachers and each student in a
16 household have access to reliable Internet and their own laptop,
17 tablet, or device;
 - 18 (6) the four-year adjusted cohort graduation rate for each year
19 from 2017 through 2020, and the number of 2020 high school
20 graduates who did not meet the graduation assessment requirement
21 that was waived by Executive Order No. 117 of 2020, and who
22 qualified for graduation through an alternate pathway;
 - 23 (7) information on any standardized assessment administered to
24 students ²in the fall between March² of 2020 ²and the fall of
25 2021²;
 - 26 (8) the attendance rates and attendance policy applied by the
27 school district;
 - 28 (9) information on the continuity of special education services
29 during this time period including identification of any
30 accommodations or services that were suspended, limited, or
31 created due to the COVID-19 public health emergency;
 - 32 (10) a description of the professional development opportunities
33 provided to school district teachers and staff;
 - 34 (11) the number of students who received free or reduced-price
35 meals, and the number of students who received free or reduced-
36 price meals over the same period in the prior year;
 - 37 (12) information on the type and participation rates of any
38 district-sponsored child care programs;
 - 39 (13) information on current and projected teacher shortages,
40 detailing shortages by school, grade level, and subject area; and
 - 41 (14) types of social-emotional supports provided to students,
42 teachers, and staff and participation rates of these programs.
- 43 Where available, the school district shall provide data that is
44 disaggregated by race, ethnicity, gender, eligibility for free or
45 reduced price lunch under the National School Lunch Program,
46 eligibility for special education services, English language learner
47 designation, and grade level.

- 1 b. ¹【Within 120 days of the effective date of this act】 By
2 September 30, ²【2021¹】 2022², the Commissioner of Education
3 shall prepare and submit to the Governor and to the Legislature,
4 pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), a final
5 report that summarizes the information and data collected pursuant
6 to subsection a. of this section. The final report shall be a
7 comprehensive overview of the continuation of school services
8 during the COVID-19 public health emergency.
- 9 c. The commissioner's use of data collected pursuant to this
10 section shall be restricted to the purposes of this section.
11
- 12 3. This act shall take effect immediately.