

[First Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 1271

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

220th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2022 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman STERLEY S. STANLEY

District 18 (Middlesex)

Assemblyman KEVIN J. ROONEY

District 40 (Bergen, Essex, Morris and Passaic)

Assemblywoman ELLEN J. PARK

District 37 (Bergen)

Co-Sponsored by:

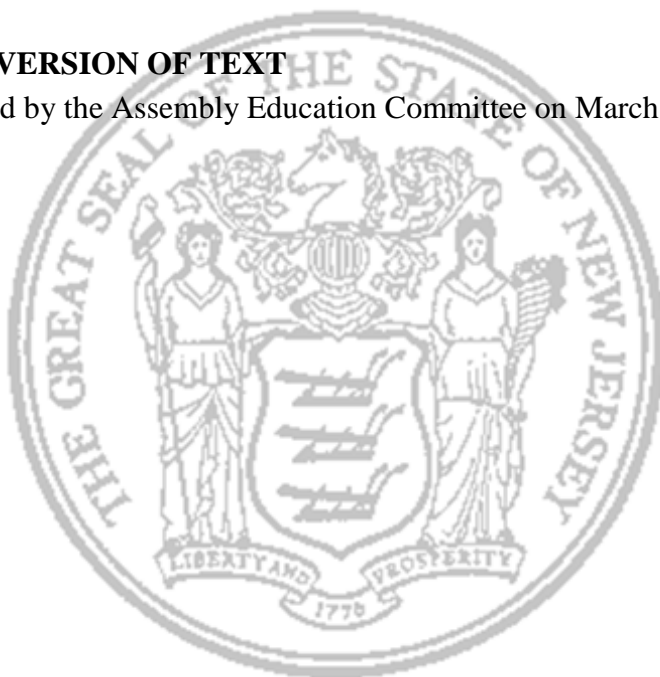
Assemblywomen DeFuccio, Reynolds-Jackson, Jaffer and Assemblyman Benson

SYNOPSIS

Permits excused absences for students who attend civic events.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Assembly Education Committee on March 10, 2022, with amendments.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/26/2022)

1 AN ACT concerning excused absences from public school for civic
2 events and supplementing chapter 36 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 ¹1. As used in this act, “civic event” means an event sponsored
9 by a government entity, the community, or a local nonprofit
10 organization to address an issue of public concern such as
11 community health and safety or environmental, economic, or
12 community well-being.¹

13
14 ¹**[1.]** 2.¹ a. Notwithstanding any law, rule, or regulation to the
15 contrary, a pupil of a public school in grades six through 12 who is
16 absent from school to attend a civic event shall have one absence
17 each school year for that purpose recorded as an excused absence
18 on the pupil’s attendance record or on that of any group or class of
19 which the pupil is a member. A board of education may permit
20 additional excused absences for such purposes. Any transcript,
21 application, employment form, or any similar form on which
22 information concerning a pupil’s attendance record is requested
23 shall show, with respect to absences, only absences other than
24 excused absences authorized pursuant to this subsection.

25 b. The parent or guardian of a pupil shall provide at least five
26 school days’ notice in advance of the intended excused absence and
27 such documentation as the superintendent or administrative
28 principal of the school district deems necessary to prove that the
29 pupil meets the requirements for an excused absence pursuant to
30 subsection a. of this section.

31
32 ¹**[2.]** 3.¹ The Commissioner of Education, with the approval of
33 the State Board of Education, shall prescribe rules relative to
34 absences for civic events including, but not limited to, a list of civic
35 events where it shall be mandatory to excuse a pupil. Nothing in
36 this section shall be construed to limit the right of a board of
37 education, in its discretion, to excuse absences for civic events not
38 included on the list.

39
40 ¹**[3.]** 4.¹ 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:

¹Assembly AED committee amendments adopted March 10, 2022.