

[First Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 1588

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

220th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2022 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman WILLIAM F. MOEN, JR.

District 5 (Camden and Gloucester)

Assemblywoman MILA M. JASEY

District 27 (Essex and Morris)

Assemblyman RAJ MUKHERJI

District 33 (Hudson)

Co-Sponsored by:

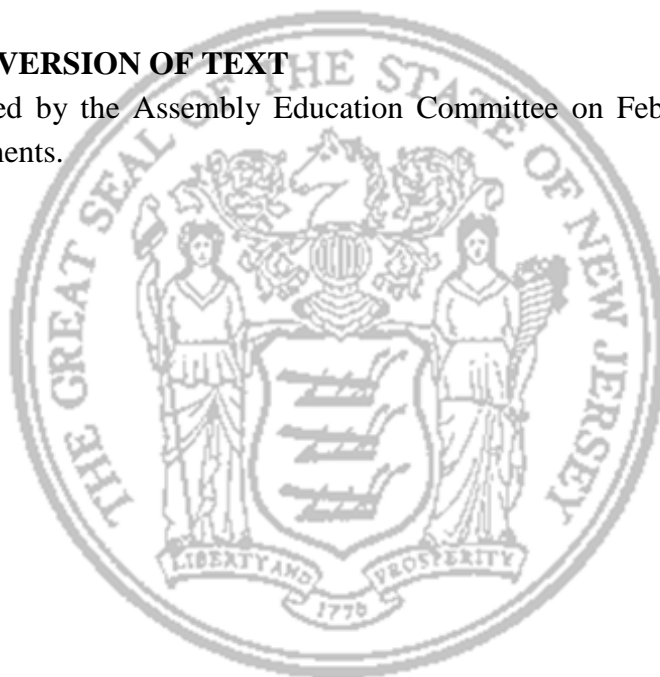
**Assemblywoman Reynolds-Jackson, Assemblyman Wimberly and
Assemblywoman Park**

SYNOPSIS

Permits use of preferred names on student diplomas.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Assembly Education Committee on February 7, 2022,
with amendments.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 1/8/2024)

1 AN ACT concerning the use of preferred names on student diplomas
 2 and supplementing chapter 6 of Title 18A of the New Jersey
 3 Statutes.

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

7
 8 1. All public and nonpublic schools, institutions of higher
 9 education, and proprietary institutions licensed to offer academic
 10 degrees shall provide a graduating student with an option to request
 11 that a diploma be conferred by the school or institution listing the
 12 student's preferred name. A school or institution shall not require a
 13 graduating student to provide legal documentation sufficient to
 14 demonstrate a legal name or gender change to permit the student to
 15 use a preferred name.

16 A school or institution shall have the right to deny a preferred
 17 name request if the preferred name is intended to:

- 18 a. misrepresent the person's identity or misappropriate the
 19 identity of another person;
 20 b. avoid a legal obligation;
 21 c. harm the reputation or interests of the school or institution;
 22 or
 23 d. be derogatory, obscene, or otherwise inappropriate.

24
 25 2. a. A public or nonpublic school, institution of higher
 26 education, or proprietary institution licensed to offer degrees shall
 27 update a former student's records provided that the former student
 28 provides sufficient documentation that the former student's legal
 29 name or gender has been changed. Documents sufficient to
 30 demonstrate a legal name or gender change include, but need not be
 31 limit to, the following:

- 32 (1) state-issued driver's license;
 33 (2) birth certificate;
 34 (3) passport;
 35 (4) social security card; or
 36 (5) court order indicating a name change, gender change, or
 37 both.

38 b. Upon receipt of proper documentation sufficient to
 39 demonstrate a legal name or gender change, a school or institution
 40 shall reissue any documents conferred upon the former student with
 41 the former student's updated legal name or gender. Documents that
 42 shall be reissued by the school or institution upon request include,
 43 but need not be limited to, a transcript or diploma conferred by the
 44 school or institution. ¹A school or institution may charge a nominal

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 February 7, 2022.

1 fee for the reissuance of any document requested by a former
2 student pursuant to this section.¹

3

4 3. This act shall take effect on the first full day of the third
5 month next following the date of enactment.