

ASSEMBLY, No. 3719

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MAY 2, 2022

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman PAUL D. MORIARTY

District 4 (Camden and Gloucester)

SYNOPSIS

Directs Commissioner of Education to study curriculum requirements for geography education in high school.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



A3719 MORIARTY

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1 AN ACT concerning geography education in public high schools and
2 supplementing chapter 35 of Title 18A of the New Jersey
3 Statutes.

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

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8 1. a. The Commissioner of Education shall study the need for,
9 and the advisability of, increasing the curriculum requirements for
10 the study of geography in high school. The study shall include an
11 evaluation of the potential positive and negative consequences
12 associated with enhancing the geography education requirements.

13 b. The commissioner shall report his findings and
14 recommendations within 6 months of the effective date of this act to
15 the State Board of Education, the Governor, and the Legislature
16 pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1).

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18 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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23 This bill directs the Commissioner of Education to study the
24 need for, and the advisability of, increasing the curriculum
25 requirements for the study of geography in high school. The study
26 must include an evaluation of the potential positive and negative
27 consequences associated with enhancing the geography education
28 requirements. The commissioner will report his findings and
29 recommendations within 6 months of the bill's effective date to the
30 State Board of Education, the Governor, and the Legislature.

31 There is currently no requirement that a high school student
32 complete a course dedicated solely to geography. Under current
33 State Board of Education regulations (N.J.A.C.6A:8-5.1), a student
34 must complete at least 15 credits in social studies in order to be
35 eligible to receive a State-endorsed high school diploma. All social
36 studies course offerings must integrate civics, economics,
37 geography, and global content within the curriculum.