

# ASSEMBLY, No. 3763

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MAY 2, 2022

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman CHRISTIAN E. BARRANCO**  
**District 26 (Essex, Morris and Passaic)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Assemblymen Catalano and McGuckin**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires parental consent for student to participate in health, family life education, or sex education program and provides parents with access to certain public school curricula.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 9/29/2022)

1 AN ACT concerning health, family life education, and sex education  
2 programs and amending P.L.1979, c.428.

3

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

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7 1. Section 2 of P.L.1979, c.428 (C.18A:35-4.7) is amended to  
8 read as follows:

9 a. Any child whose parent or guardian [presents to the school  
10 principal a signed statement that any part of the instructions in  
11 health, family life education or sex education is in conflict with his  
12 conscience, or sincerely held moral or religious beliefs] does not  
13 provide prior written consent to participate in any health, family life  
14 education, or sex education program shall be excused from that  
15 portion of the course where such instruction is being given and no  
16 penalties as to credit or graduation shall result therefrom.

17 b. Any parent or guardian may review the complete health,  
18 family life education, or sex education program curricula, including  
19 all supplemental materials, to be used in the education program in a  
20 class or course in which the parent's or guardian's child is enrolled.  
21 A complete copy of all printed materials not subject to copyright  
22 protection and a description of all audio-visual materials shall be  
23 made available through any available parent or guardian online  
24 portal and kept in the school library or office and made available for  
25 review to any parent or guardian during school office hours before  
26 and during the school year. The audio-visual materials shall be  
27 made available to parents and guardians for in-person review, upon  
28 request, on the same basis as printed materials are made available.

29 c. Each board of education shall develop and distribute to the  
30 parents or guardians of a student enrolled in a class or course in  
31 which a health, family life education, or sex education program is  
32 included in the curricula and post for public viewing on the school  
33 district's website a summary designed to assist parents and  
34 guardians in understanding the program as such program progresses  
35 and to encourage parental guidance and involvement in the  
36 instruction of the students. The summary shall reflect the curricula  
37 of the program as taught in the classroom and shall include contact  
38 information for the individual or office responsible for maintaining  
39 printed and audio-visual materials.

40 (cf: P.L.1979, c.428, s.2)

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42 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

46

47 This bill requires parental consent for a public school student to  
48 participate in health, family life education, or sex education

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1 program and provides parents and guardians with access to the  
2 health, family life education, and sex education curricula in public  
3 schools.

4 Under current law, any child whose parent or guardian presents  
5 to the school principal a signed statement that any part of the  
6 instructions in health, family life education or sex education is in  
7 conflict with his conscience, or sincerely held moral or religious  
8 beliefs will be excused from that portion of the course where such  
9 instruction is being given and no penalties as to credit or graduation  
10 will result therefrom.

11 This bill provides that any child whose parent or guardian does  
12 not provide written consent to participate in any health, family life  
13 education, or sex education program will be excused from that  
14 portion of the course where such instruction is being given and no  
15 penalties as to credit or graduation will result.

16 The bill also provides that any parent or guardian may review the  
17 complete health, family life education, or sex education program  
18 curricula, including all supplemental materials, to be used in the  
19 education program in a class or course in which the parent's or  
20 guardian's child is enrolled. A complete copy of all printed  
21 materials not subject to copyright protection and a description of all  
22 audio-visual materials is required to be made available through any  
23 available parent or guardian online portal and kept in the school  
24 library or office and made available for review to any parent or  
25 guardian during school office hours before and during the school  
26 year. The audio-visual materials are required to be made available  
27 to parents and guardians for in-person review, upon request, on the  
28 same basis as printed materials are made available.

29 Under the bill, each board of education is required to develop  
30 and distribute to the parents or guardians of a student enrolled in a  
31 class or course in which a health, family life education, or sex  
32 education program is included in the curricula and post for public  
33 viewing on the school district's website a summary designed to  
34 assist parents and guardians in understanding the program as such  
35 program progresses and to encourage parental guidance and  
36 involvement in the instruction of the students. The summary will  
37 reflect the curricula of the program as taught in the classroom and  
38 will include contact information for the individual or office  
39 responsible for maintaining printed and audio-visual materials.