

**ASSEMBLY, No. 5312**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**220th LEGISLATURE**

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INTRODUCED MARCH 20, 2023

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman BRIAN E. RUMPF**

**District 9 (Atlantic, Burlington and Ocean)**

**Assemblywoman DIANNE C. GOVE**

**District 9 (Atlantic, Burlington and Ocean)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Assemblymen Catalano and McGuckin**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires schools to report certain assaults to law enforcement.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning mandatory public school reporting to law  
2 enforcement and supplementing chapter 37 of Title 18A of the  
3 New Jersey Statutes.

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

7  
8 1. a. A public school employee shall notify the principal or the  
9 principal's designee when a student allegedly commits an assault  
10 upon another student on school property, on a school bus, or at a  
11 school-sponsored function. After being notified by the school  
12 employee, the principal or the principal's designee shall  
13 immediately report the incident to the appropriate law enforcement  
14 agency.

15 b. As used in this section:

16 "Assault" means the same as that term is defined pursuant to  
17 paragraph (1) of subsection a. of N.J.S.2C:12-1.

18 "Law enforcement agency" means a department, division,  
19 bureau, commission, board or other authority of the State or of any  
20 political subdivision thereof which employs law enforcement  
21 officers.

22  
23 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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26 STATEMENT

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28 This bill requires schools to report certain assaults to law  
29 enforcement.

30 Under the bill, a public school employee is required to alert the  
31 principal or the principal's designee after becoming aware that a  
32 student has allegedly committed an assault upon another student on  
33 school property, on a school bus, or at a school-sponsored function.  
34 After receiving notification, the principal or principal's designee is  
35 required to immediately report the incident to the appropriate law  
36 enforcement agency.

37 This bill defines "assault" as attempting to cause or purposely,  
38 knowingly, or recklessly causing bodily injury to another. "Law  
39 enforcement agency" is defined as a department, division, bureau,  
40 commission, board or other authority of the State or of any political  
41 subdivision thereof which employs law enforcement officers.

42 This bill is in response to the death of Central Regional High  
43 School student Adriana Kuch. Adriana Kuch committed suicide  
44 after a video of her being assaulted by four classmates on school  
45 property was posted on the Internet. The school did not report the  
46 assault to the police. It is the intent of this bill to require schools to  
47 immediately report similar incidents of assault to the police.