

[First Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 5741

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED NOVEMBER 30, 2023

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman PAMELA R. LAMPITT
District 6 (Burlington and Camden)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman Quijano

SYNOPSIS

Requires DOLWD, in collaboration with DOE, to establish database of novice teachers and to host job fairs.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Assembly Education Committee on December 14, 2023, with amendments.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 11/30/2023)

1 AN ACT concerning school district staffing vacancies and
2 supplementing chapter 6 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

3

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

6

7 1. As used in this act:

8 “Novice teacher” means a teacher eligible to work under a valid
9 certificate of eligibility or certificate of eligibility with advanced
10 standing who has not yet been issued a provisional certificate.

11 “School district” means a school district, charter school,
12 renaissance school project, county special services school district,
13 or county vocational school district.

14

15 2. a. The ¹Department of Labor and Workforce Development, in
16 collaboration with the¹ Department of Education^{1, 1} shall, within 180
17 days of the effective date of this act, establish and maintain a database
18 of novice teachers that shall be available to school districts and novice
19 teachers to assist in filling staffing vacancies. The database shall not
20 be available to the general public.

21 b. The ¹Commissioner of Education shall provide the following
22 information for each novice teacher to the Department of Labor and
23 Workforce Development to be included in the¹ database ¹【shall
24 include the following information for each novice teacher】 established
25 pursuant to subsection a. of this section¹:

26 (1) the novice teacher’s name, telephone number, email address,
27 and method by which a school district may contact the novice teacher;

28 (2) the novice teacher’s current employment status;

29 (3) the certificate and endorsement held by the novice teacher; and

30 (4) any other information the Commissioner of Education deems
31 necessary.

32 c. The ¹【department】 Commissioner of Labor and Workforce
33 Development¹ shall develop a mechanism by which a novice teacher
34 may opt out of inclusion in the database. A novice teacher may
35 request to be excluded from the database at any time.

36 d. A novice teacher may request ¹【the department limit】¹ the
37 contact information included in the database pursuant to paragraph (1)
38 of subsection b. of this section ¹be limited¹ to a preferred method of
39 contact. The ¹【department】 Commissioner of Labor and Workforce
40 Development¹ shall comply with a request made by a novice teacher
41 pursuant to this subsection.

42

43 3. a. The ¹Department of Labor and Workforce Development, in
44 collaboration with the¹ Department of Education^{1, 1} shall hold three

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 December 14, 2023.

1 job fairs per year to assist school districts in filling staffing vacancies,
2 with one job fair held in each of the northern, central, and southern
3 regions of the State.

4 b. (1) The ¹**【department】** Commissioner of Education¹ shall
5 invite school districts to participate in the job fairs.

6 (2) The job fair shall be open to novice teachers included in the
7 database established pursuant to section 2 of this act, individuals
8 enrolled in an educator preparation program, and any other individual
9 appropriately certified to work in a public school in the State.

10 c. The ¹**【department】** Commissioner of Labor and Workforce
11 Development¹ shall notify each novice teacher included in the
12 database established pursuant to section 2 of this act of the date, time,
13 and location of each job fair.

14 d. The ¹**【department】** Commissioner of Labor and Workforce
15 Development¹ may charge employer participants a reasonable,
16 nominal fee to participate in a job fair held pursuant to this section.
17 The fee obtained pursuant to this subsection shall only be used to
18 cover costs associated with identifying and securing a location for the
19 job fair, hospitality services, and other administrative costs as
20 determined by the commissioner.

21

22 4. This act shall take effect immediately.