

SENATE, No. 2385

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 24, 2022

Sponsored by:

Senator JOSEPH PENNACCHIO

District 26 (Essex, Morris and Passaic)

Senator MICHAEL L. TESTA, JR.

District 1 (Atlantic, Cape May and Cumberland)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senator Durr

SYNOPSIS

Removes diversity and inclusion instruction requirements for students in grades kindergarten through eight.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/9/2022)

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10 district shall incorporate instruction on diversity and inclusion in an

11 appropriate place in the curriculum of students in grades

12 [kindergarten] 9 through 12 as part of the district's implementation

13 of the New Jersey Student Learning Standards.

15 (1) highlight and promote diversity, including economic

16 diversity, equity, inclusion, tolerance, and belonging in connection

17 with gender and sexual orientation, race and ethnicity, disabilities,

18 and religious tolerance;

19 (2) examine the impact that [unconscious bias and] economic

20 disparities have at both an individual level and on society as a

21 whole; and

22 (3) encourage safe, welcoming, and inclusive environments for

23 all students regardless of race or ethnicity, sexual and gender

24 identities, mental and physical disabilities, and religious beliefs.

25 c. The Commissioner of Education shall provide school

26 districts with sample learning activities and resources designed to

27 promote diversity and inclusion.

28 (cf: P.L.2021, c.32)

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30 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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35 This bill removes the requirement that school districts provide

36 instruction on diversity and inclusion in the curriculum of students

37 in grades kindergarten through eight as part of the implementation

38 of the New Jersey Student Learning Standards. This bill also

39 removes the requirement that the instruction on diversity and

40 inclusion includes an examination of the impact that unconscious

41 bias has at both an individual level and on society as a whole.

42 Current law requires that school districts provide instruction on

43 diversity and inclusion in the curriculum of students in grades

44 kindergarten through 12. Additionally, current law requires that

45 school districts incorporate unconscious bias in the instruction on

46 diversity and inclusion.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.