[First Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 1676

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

221st LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2024 SESSION

Sponsored by:
Assemblywoman PAMELA R. LAMPITT
District 6 (Burlington and Camden)
Assemblyman STERLEY S. STANLEY
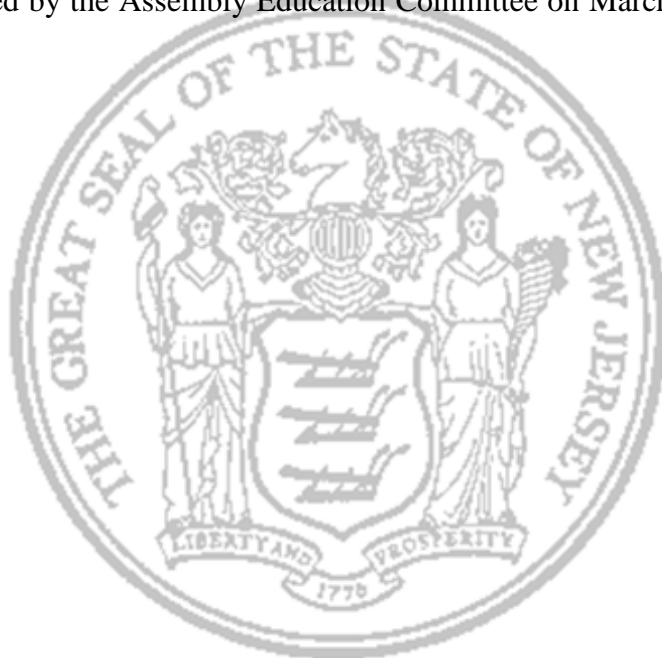**District 18 (Middlesex)**

Co-Sponsored by:
Assemblywoman Quijano

SYNOPSIS
Requires DOLWD, in consultation 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 March 4, 2024, with amendments.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/4/2024)

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**]**[1] county vocational school district [1], or approved private
14   school for students with disabilities[1].
15
16   2. a. The [1]Department of Labor and Workforce Development,
17   in consultation with the[1] Department of Education [1],[1] shall, within
18   180 days of the effective date of this act, establish and maintain a
19   database of novice teachers that shall be available to school districts
20   and novice teachers to assist in filling staffing vacancies. The
21   database shall not be available to the general public.
22   b. The [1]Commissioner of Education shall provide the following
23   information for each novice teacher to the Department of Labor and
24   Workforce Development to be included in the[1] database [1]**[**shall
25   include the following information for each novice teacher**]**
26   established pursuant to subsection a. of this section[1]:
27   (1) the novice teacher's name, telephone number, email address,
28   and method by which a school district may contact the novice
29   teacher;
30   (2) the novice teacher's current employment status;
31   (3) the certificate and endorsement held by the novice teacher;
32   and
33   (4) any other information the Commissioner of Education deems
34   necessary.
35   c. The [1]**[**department**]** Commissioner of Labor and Workforce
36   Development[1] shall develop a mechanism by which a novice
37   teacher may opt out of inclusion in the database. A novice teacher
38   may request to be excluded from the database at any time.
39   d. A novice teacher may request [1]**[**the department limit**]**[1] the
40   contact information included in the database pursuant to paragraph
41   (1) of subsection b. of this section [1]be limited[1] to a preferred
42   method of contact. The [1]**[**department**]** Commissioner of Labor and

1 Workforce Development[1] shall comply with a request made by a
2 novice teacher pursuant to this subsection.
3
4   3.   a.   The [1]Department of Labor and Workforce Development,
5 in consultation with the[1] Department of Education [1],[1] shall hold
6 three job fairs per year to assist school districts in filling staffing
7 vacancies, with one job fair held in each of the northern, central,
8 and southern regions of the State.
9   b.   (1)   The [1][department] Commissioner of Education[1] shall
10 invite school districts to participate in the job fairs.
11   (2)   The job fair shall be open to novice teachers included in the
12 database established pursuant to section 2 of this act, individuals
13 enrolled in an educator preparation program, and any other
14 individual appropriately certified to work in a public school in the
15 State.
16   c.   The [1][department] Commissioner of Labor and Workforce
17 Development[1] shall notify each novice teacher included in the
18 database established pursuant to section 2 of this act of the date,
19 time, and location of each job fair.
20   d.   The [1][department] Commissioner of Labor and Workforce
21 Development[1] may charge employer participants a reasonable,
22 nominal fee to participate in a job fair held pursuant to this section.
23 The fee obtained pursuant to this subsection shall only be used to
24 cover costs associated with identifying and securing a location for
25 the job fair, hospitality services, and other administrative costs as
26 determined by the commissioner.
27
28   4.   This act shall take effect immediately.