SENATE, No. 2335

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

221st LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JANUARY 25, 2024

Sponsored by:
Senator BRIAN P. STACK
District 33 (Hudson)
Senator ANGELA V. MCKNIGHT
District 31 (Hudson)

SYNOPSIS

Requires school districts to provide instruction on history and contributions of Latino and Hispanic Americans as part of implementation of New Jersey Student Learning Standards.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT
As introduced.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 2/5/2024)
AN ACT concerning instruction on Latino and Hispanic Americans
in public schools and supplementing chapter 35 of Title 18A of
the New Jersey Statutes.

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

1. a. A board of education shall include instruction on the
history and contributions of Latino and Hispanic Americans in an
appropriate place in the curriculum of students in grades
kindergarten through 12 as part of the school district’s
implementation of the New Jersey Student Learning Standards in
Social Studies and English Language Arts.

b. The Commissioner of Education, in consultation with the
Commission on Latino and Hispanic Heritage established pursuant
to section 2 of P.L.2019, c.321 (C.18A:4-48), shall provide school
districts with sample learning activities and resources that may be
used to support implementation of the instructional requirement.

2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall first apply to
the first full school year following the date of enactment.

STATEMENT

This bill requires a board of education to include instruction on
the history and contributions of Latino and Hispanic Americans in
an appropriate place in the curriculum of students in grades
kindergarten through 12 as part of the school district’s
implementation of the New Jersey Student Learning Standards in
Social Studies and English Language Arts. The bill also requires
the Commissioner of Education, in consultation with the
Commission on Latino and Hispanic Heritage, to provide school
districts with sample learning activities and resources that may be
used to support implementation of the instructional requirement.

Current law requires the Commission on Latino and Hispanic
Heritage, in consultation with the Department of Education, to
develop curriculum guidelines for the teaching of subjects and
topics concerning and relating to the culture, history, and heritage
of people of Latino and Hispanic descent. School boards are to
incorporate these guidelines into the curriculum to the extent
possible. This bill specifically requires instruction on the history
and contributions of Latino and Hispanic Americans in the
curriculum as part of the implementation of the learning standards.