SENATE, No. 2498

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

221st LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 5, 2024

Sponsored by:
Senator M. TERESA RUIZ
District 29 (Essex and Hudson)
Senator SHIRLEY K. TURNER
District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

Co-Sponsored by:
Senator McKnight

SYNOPSIS

Requires Commissioner of Education to establish and maintain common application and web portal for substitute teachers seeking employment at public schools.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 2/15/2024)
AN ACT concerning employment opportunities for substitute teachers in public schools and supplementing chapter 6 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. The Commissioner of Education shall establish a common application for substitute teachers and maintain a web portal to which a substitute teacher may submit a single common application for employment at a public school of the State. The common application shall be available and the web portal shall be fully operational within 90 days of the effective date of this act.

b. The common application and web portal established pursuant to subsection a. of this section shall:

(1) maximize the ability of substitute teachers to connect with public schools that have employment openings;

(2) increase the degree of information sharing regarding employment opportunities for substitute teachers; and

(3) maintain high standards for data privacy and security.

c. The commissioner may contract with a private vendor to effectuate the purposes of this act.

d. Nothing in this act shall be construed to prohibit a prospective employer from using its own application process or web portal or from requiring additional information from applicants who apply for employment as a substitute teacher using the common application and web portal established pursuant to this act.

2. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

This bill directs the Commissioner of Education to establish and maintain a common application for substitute teachers and a web portal to which a substitute teacher may submit a single common application for employment at a public school of the State. The common application is to be made available and the web portal is required to be fully operational within 90 days of the bill’s effective date.

Under the bill, the common application and web portal will:

(1) maximize the ability of substitute teachers to connect with public schools that have employment openings;

(2) increase the degree of information sharing regarding employment opportunities for substitute teachers; and

(3) maintain high standards for data privacy and security.

The bill permits the commissioner to contract with a private vendor to effectuate the bill’s purposes. The bill also clarifies that
nothing in the bill will be construed to prohibit a prospective employer from using its own application process or web portal or from requiring additional information from applicants who apply for employment as a substitute teacher using the common application and web portal established pursuant to the provisions of the bill.