

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)

1 AN ACT concerning employment opportunities for substitute
2 teachers in public schools and supplementing chapter 6 of Title
3 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

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

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8 1. a. The Commissioner of Education shall establish a common
9 application for substitute teachers and maintain a web portal to
10 which a substitute teacher may submit a single common application
11 for employment at a public school of the State. The common
12 application shall be available and the web portal shall be fully
13 operational within 90 days of the effective date of this act.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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29 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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32 STATEMENT

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

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

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

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

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

47 The bill permits the commissioner to contract with a private
48 vendor to effectuate the bill's purposes. The bill also clarifies that

S2498 RUIZ, TURNER

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1 nothing in the bill will be construed to prohibit a prospective
2 employer from using its own application process or web portal or
3 from requiring additional information from applicants who apply
4 for employment as a substitute teacher using the common
5 application and web portal established pursuant to the provisions of
6 the bill.