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SENATE, No. 3462

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

222nd LEGISLATURE

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SYNOPSIS

Requires high school students to receive financial literacy instruction.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Senate Education Committee on March 2, 2026, with amendments.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 10/1/2026)

AN ACT concerning financial literacy, amending P.L.2018, c.167, and supplementing chapter 7C of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

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

1. Section 1 of P.L.2018, c.167 (C.18A:35-4.34) is amended to read as follows:

1. a. The State Board of Education shall require that a school district incorporate financial literacy instruction in **[**each of the grades six through eight financial literacy instruction to pupils enrolled in those grades**]** an appropriate place in the curriculum of students enrolled in grades six through eight.

b. The State board shall require [1]**[**that**]**[1] a school district [1]**[**provide**]**[1] to [1]provide[1] each high school student a one semester course, or one trimester course, as appropriate, [1]exclusively[1] in financial literacy.

c. The purpose of the middle school and high school instruction shall be to provide **[**middle school**]** students with the basic financial literacy necessary for sound financial decision-making.

The instruction shall meet the requirements established by the State board and shall:

[a.**]** (1) be appropriate to, and reflect the age and comprehension of, the students enrolled in the particular grade level; and

[b.**]** (2) include content on budgeting, savings, credit, debt, insurance, investment, behavioral economics, banking, consumer skills, taxes, college financial planning, accounting, and other issues associated with personal financial responsibility as determined by the State board.

Instruction that principally addresses economic, business, and entrepreneurial literacy shall not be used to satisfy the financial literacy instruction requirement established pursuant to this section.

The instruction shall be taught by a teacher holding an appropriate endorsement.

The Commissioner of Education shall provide school districts with sample instructional materials and resources that may be used to support the implementation of the financial literacy instruction requirement.

(cf: P.L.2018, c.167, s.1)

2. (New section) For a State-endorsed diploma, district boards of education shall develop, adopt, and implement local graduation requirements that include a requirement that a high school student

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.
Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:
[1]Senate SED committee amendments adopted March 2, 2026.

complete the financial literacy course provided pursuant to subsection b. of section 1 of P.L.2018, c.167 (C.18A:35-4.34).

3. This act shall take effect immediately and section 2 shall first apply to students entering 12th grade in the [1]**[**2027-2028**]** second full[1] school year [1]following the date of enactment[1].