

ASSEMBLY, No. 1044

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 214th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2010 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman JOSEPH R. MALONE, III

District 30 (Burlington, Mercer, Monmouth and Ocean)

Assemblyman JOSEPH CRYAN

District 20 (Union)

Assemblywoman JOAN M. VOSS

District 38 (Bergen)

Co-Sponsored by:

**Assemblymen Chiappone, Diegnan, Dancer, Assemblywomen Greenstein
and Jasey**

SYNOPSIS

Establishes Task Force on Public School Student Recess to study benefits of student recess and make recommendations on advisability of mandatory recess in school districts.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel



1 AN ACT establishing a Task Force on Public School Student
2 Recess.

3

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

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7 1. There is established a Task Force on Public School Student
8 Recess to consist of the following 15 members: the Commissioner
9 of Education, or a designee, who shall serve ex officio; two
10 members of the General Assembly, one member to be appointed by
11 the Speaker of the General Assembly and one member to be
12 appointed by the Minority Leader of the General Assembly; two
13 members of the Senate, one member to be appointed by the
14 President of the Senate and one member to be appointed by the
15 Minority Leader of the Senate; and seven members to be appointed
16 by the Governor including one each from the American Academy of
17 Pediatrics – New Jersey Chapter, the New Jersey School Boards
18 Association, the New Jersey Principals and Supervisors
19 Association, the New Jersey Association of School Administrators,
20 the New Jersey Education Association, the New Jersey Parent
21 Teacher Association, and the New Jersey Association for Health,
22 Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance; and three public
23 members, one to be appointed by the Governor, one to be appointed
24 by the President of the Senate, and one to be appointed by the
25 Speaker of the General Assembly.

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27 2. All appointments to the task force shall be made within 30
28 days after the effective date of this act. Vacancies in the
29 membership of the task force shall be filled in the same manner as
30 the original appointments were made. Members of the task force
31 shall serve without compensation, but shall be reimbursed for
32 necessary expenditures incurred in the performance of their duties
33 as members of the task force.

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35 3. The task force shall organize as soon as may be practicable
36 after the appointment of its members and shall choose a chairperson
37 from among its members and shall appoint a secretary who need not
38 be a member of the task force. For purposes of convening a task
39 force meeting, a quorum shall consist of 5 members; for purposes of
40 adopting task force recommendations, a majority of the total task
41 force membership shall be required.

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43 4. The Department of Education shall provide such
44 stenographic, clerical and other administrative assistants, and such
45 professional staff, as the task force requires to carry out its work.
46 The task force shall also be entitled to call to its assistance and avail
47 itself of the services of the employees of any State, county or

1 municipal department, board, bureau, commission or agency as it
2 may require and as may be available for its purposes.

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4 5. It shall be the duty of the task force to study the social and
5 health benefits of student recess and develop recommendations on
6 the advisability of making student recess mandatory in all school
7 districts. The task force shall:

8 a. examine current data, research, programs, and initiatives
9 related to the physical, social, emotional, and intellectual benefits
10 achieved by young students as a result of participation in school
11 recess;

12 b. identify effective strategies for schools that promote lifelong
13 health and prepare children and youth for physically active
14 lifestyles;

15 c. examine the extent to which recess is provided to students in
16 school districts across the State of New Jersey; and,

17 d. develop recommendations on the advisability of mandating
18 daily recess in all school districts.

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20 6. The task force shall issue a final report to the Governor, and
21 to the Legislature pursuant to section 2 of P.L. 1991, c.164
22 (C.52:14-19.1), containing its findings and recommendations,
23 including any recommendations for legislation that it deems
24 appropriate, no later than nine months after the task force organizes.

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26 7. This act shall take effect immediately and the task force
27 shall expire on the 30th day after the issuance of its final report.

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STATEMENT

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32 This bill establishes the Task Force on Public School Student
33 Recess. The task force is to consist of 15 members including: the
34 Commissioner of Education, or a designee; two members of the
35 General Assembly, one appointed by the Speaker of the General
36 Assembly and one appointed by the Minority Leader of the General
37 Assembly; two members of the Senate, one appointed by the
38 President of the Senate and one appointed by the Minority Leader
39 of the Senate; and seven members appointed by the Governor,
40 including one each from the American Academy of Pediatrics –
41 New Jersey Chapter, the New Jersey School Boards Association,
42 the New Jersey Principals and Supervisors Association, the New
43 Jersey Association of School Administrators, the New Jersey
44 Education Association, the New Jersey Parent Teacher Association,
45 and the New Jersey Association for Health, Physical Education,
46 Recreation, and Dance; and three public members, one to be

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1 appointed by the Governor, one by the President of the Senate, and
2 one by the Speaker of the General Assembly.

3 It will be the duty of the task force to: examine current data,
4 research, programs, and initiatives related to the physical, social,
5 emotional, and intellectual benefits achieved by young students as a
6 result of participation in school recess; identify effective strategies
7 for schools that promote lifelong health and prepare children and
8 youth for physically active lifestyles; examine the extent to which
9 recess is provided to students in school districts across the State of
10 New Jersey; and develop recommendations on the advisability of
11 mandating daily recess in all school districts.

12 The task force is directed to issue a report to the Governor and
13 the Legislature no later than nine months after the task force
14 organizes.