

ASSEMBLY, No. 4901

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 216th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED DECEMBER 14, 2015

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman MILA M. JASEY

District 27 (Essex and Morris)

Assemblyman RALPH R. CAPUTO

District 28 (Essex)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman Jones, Assemblyman Space and Assemblywoman Phoebus

SYNOPSIS

Requires school district or charter school to provide notification to parent or guardian of enrolled student on upcoming administration of State assessments or commercially-developed standardized assessments.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 1/12/2016)

1 AN ACT concerning student testing in public schools and
2 supplementing chapter 7C of Title 18A of the New Jersey
3 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. As used in this act:

9 “Commercially-developed standardized assessment” means a
10 State-required or district-mandated assessment that is administered
11 by the school district or charter school that requires all students in a
12 grade to answer the same questions, or a selection of questions from
13 a common bank of questions, in the same manner, and is developed
14 and scored by an entity under contract with a board of education.

15 “State assessment” means an assessment required pursuant to
16 State or federal law and administered to all students in a specific
17 grade level or subject area and whose results are aggregated for
18 analysis at the district, school, or student subgroup level.

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20 2. a. No later than October 1 of each school year, a school
21 district or charter school shall provide to the parents or guardians of
22 a student enrolled in the district or charter school information on
23 any State assessment or commercially-developed standardized
24 assessment that will be administered to the student in that school
25 year. If a school district or charter school elects to administer an
26 additional commercially-developed standardized assessment after
27 October 1, then the information shall be provided within 30 days of
28 that determination. The information, as determined by the
29 commissioner through regulations adopted pursuant to the
30 “Administrative Procedure Act,” P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et
31 seq.), shall include, but need not be limited to, the following:

32 (1) the subject area of the assessment and grade levels covered
33 by the assessment;

34 (2) the date or range of potential dates for the administration of
35 the assessment;

36 (3) the time allotted for the student to take and complete the
37 assessment;

38 (4) any accommodations or accessibility options available to
39 students;

40 (5) information on how and when the student and his parent or
41 guardian can access both sample question and answers to the
42 assessment and the student’s results; and

43 (6) whether the assessment is required by the State, the federal
44 government, or both.

45 b. The commissioner shall provide to each school district and
46 charter school a model document to provide to parents or guardians
47 the information required pursuant to subsection a. of this section

1 and information on the costs incurred by the State associated with
2 the administration of the State assessment.

3 c. The information required pursuant to subsection a. of this
4 section shall be provided, to the maximum extent feasible, in the
5 native languages of the parents or guardians of the students enrolled
6 in the school district or charter school.

7 d. The information provided pursuant to subsection a. of this
8 section shall also be available at the meeting of the board of
9 education of the district or the meeting of the board of trustees of
10 the charter school at which the annual School Performance Reports
11 are presented to the public.

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13 3. This act shall take effect immediately and shall first be
14 applicable to the first full school year following enactment.

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STATEMENT

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19 This bill requires that no later than October 1 of each school
20 year, a school district and a charter school must provide to the
21 parents or guardians of a student enrolled in the district or school
22 information on any State assessment or commercially-developed
23 standardized assessment that will be administered to the student in
24 that school year. The Commissioner of Education is to provide a
25 model document to each school district and charter school to
26 provide the required information to parents or guardians and
27 information on the costs incurred by the State associated with the
28 administration of the State assessment. The bill also requires the
29 commissioner to determine by regulation the information which will
30 be provided to parents or guardians of students enrolled in the
31 district or charter school. The specific information items listed in
32 the bill will be required to be included in the commissioner's
33 regulations.

34 The information provided annually to parents or guardians must
35 also be available at the meeting of the board of education of the
36 school district or the meeting of the board of trustees of the charter
37 school at which the annual School Performance Reports are
38 presented to the public.