

ASSEMBLY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 1114

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 15, 2017

The Assembly Education Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 1114 with committee amendments.

As amended, this bill requires school districts to provide instruction on interacting with law enforcement in a manner marked by mutual cooperation and respect, and on the rights of individuals when interacting with a law enforcement official, as part of the implementation of the New Jersey Student Learning Standards in Social Studies, beginning with the 2018-2019 school year. The instruction must provide students with information on: the role and responsibilities of a law enforcement official in providing for public safety; an individual's responsibilities to comply with a directive from a law enforcement official; and an individual's rights under law in interacting with a law enforcement official.

The bill directs the Commissioner of Education to appoint an advisory committee to assist in the development of a curriculum for the implementation of the instructional requirement, and details the organizations that are to serve on the advisory committee. The bill specifies that the curriculum must consist of two parts, with one part that includes age-appropriate instruction for students enrolled in grades kindergarten through four, and one part designed for the more rigorous instruction of students enrolled in grades five through 12.

This bill was pre-filed for introduction in the 2016-2017 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review, which has been performed.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The committee amended the bill to:

1) provide that the instruction will also include information on an individual's rights under the law in interacting with a law enforcement official;

2) direct the Commissioner of Education to appoint an advisory committee to assist in the development of the curriculum. Under the amendments the advisory committee will include a representative of each of the following organizations as selected by the organization: the New Jersey State Policemen's Benevolent Association, the State

Fraternal Order of Police, the American Civil Liberties Union of New Jersey, the NAACP New Jersey State Conference, the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives, the New Jersey Institute for Social Justice, the New Jersey Council for Social Studies, the New Jersey Education Association, and the American Federation of Teachers – New Jersey; and

3) specify that the curriculum consist of two parts, with one part that includes age-appropriate instruction for students enrolled in grades kindergarten through four, and one part designed for the more rigorous instruction of students enrolled in grades five through 12.