

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
ASSEMBLY, Nos. 3081, 990 and 2901

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**216th LEGISLATURE**

ADOPTED MAY 15, 2014

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**SYNOPSIS**

Creates Education Reform Review Task Force; delays certain uses of certain assessments and certain changes to teacher evaluation system.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

Substitute as adopted by the Assembly Education Committee.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/17/2014)

1 AN ACT concerning education reform and initiatives, and  
2 supplementing P.L.2012, c.26 (C.18A:6-117 et al.) and chapter  
3 7C of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

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

7  
8 1. As used in P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature  
9 as this bill), “PARCC assessments” means the assessments  
10 developed by the consortium of states known as the Partnership for  
11 Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers.

12  
13 2. a. There is established the Education Reform Review Task  
14 Force. The purpose of the task force shall be to review the  
15 implementation of the common core state standards in English-  
16 language arts and mathematics, the use of PARCC assessments, the  
17 implementation and potential effects of the teacher and principal  
18 evaluation systems established pursuant to P.L.2012, c.26  
19 (C.18A:6-117 et al.), and issues related to the use of certain student  
20 data.

21 b. The task force shall consist of the following 15 members:

22 (1) the Commissioner of Education, or the commissioner’s  
23 designee, who shall serve ex officio;

24 (2) eight members appointed by the Governor, one upon the  
25 recommendation of the American Federation of Teachers New  
26 Jersey, one upon the recommendation of the New Jersey  
27 Association of School Administrators, one upon the  
28 recommendation of the New Jersey Association for Supervision and  
29 Curriculum Development, one upon the recommendation of the  
30 New Jersey Council of County Vocational Schools, one upon the  
31 recommendation of the New Jersey Education Association, one  
32 upon the recommendation of the New Jersey Principals and  
33 Supervisors Association, one upon the recommendation of the New  
34 Jersey School Boards Association, and one, who has demonstrated  
35 expertise in special education instruction and curriculum, upon the  
36 recommendation of the Statewide Parent Advocacy Network;

37 (3) three public members appointed by the Senate President, one  
38 of whom is the parent or guardian of a student enrolled in a New  
39 Jersey public school, one of whom has demonstrated expertise in  
40 language arts literacy instruction and curriculum, and one of whom  
41 has demonstrated expertise in mathematics instruction and  
42 curriculum; and

43 (4) three public members appointed by the Speaker of the  
44 General Assembly, one of whom is the parent or guardian of a  
45 student enrolled in a New Jersey public school, one of whom has  
46 demonstrated expertise in language arts literacy instruction and

1 curriculum, and one of whom has demonstrated expertise in  
2 mathematics instruction and curriculum.

3 c. Appointments to the task force shall be made within 30 days  
4 of the effective date of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the  
5 Legislature as this bill). Vacancies in the membership of the task  
6 force shall be filled in the same manner as the original  
7 appointments were made. Members of the task force shall serve  
8 without compensation, but shall be reimbursed for necessary  
9 expenditures incurred in the performance of their duties as members  
10 of the task force within the limits of funds appropriated or  
11 otherwise made available to the task force for its purposes.

12  
13 3. The task force shall organize as soon as practicable  
14 following the appointment of its member, but no later than 60 days  
15 after the appointment of the members. The task force shall choose  
16 one member of the task force to serve as the chairperson. The task  
17 force shall also appoint a secretary who need not be a member of  
18 the task force.

19  
20 4. The Department of Education shall provide such  
21 stenographic, clerical, and other assistance, and such professional  
22 staff as the task force requires to carry out its work. The task force  
23 shall also be entitled to call to its assistance and avail itself of the  
24 services of the employees of any State, county, or municipal  
25 department, board, bureau, commission, or agency as it may require  
26 and as may be available for its purposes.

27  
28 5. The task force shall evaluate the implementation of the  
29 common core state standards in English-language arts and  
30 mathematics, the use of PARCC assessments, the implementation  
31 and potential effect of the teacher and principal evaluation systems  
32 developed pursuant to P.L.2012, c.26 (C.18A:6-117 et al.), and  
33 issues related to the use of student data. The evaluation shall  
34 include, but need not be limited to, the following:

35 a. a description of actions taken by the State to date to  
36 implement the common core state standards and a timeline of any  
37 subsequent actions to be taken;

38 b. a comparison of the common core state standards in English-  
39 language arts and mathematics to the core curriculum content  
40 standards in language arts literacy and mathematics that existed  
41 prior to the adoption of the common core state standards;

42 c. an estimate of the full cost for school districts to deliver to  
43 students the common core state standards, including those costs  
44 already incurred by school districts and those to be incurred in the  
45 future;

46 d. an analysis of student performance on the State assessments  
47 prior to the 2012-2013 school year and in the 2012-2013 and  
48 subsequent school years; the analysis shall assess changes in the

- 1 assessment results among different racial and ethnic groups and  
2 different economic groups;
- 3 e. a review of school districts' current technological capacity in  
4 relation to the capacity recommended for the administration of  
5 PARCC assessments, and an estimate of costs that school districts  
6 will incur to achieve the technological capacity recommended for  
7 administering PARCC assessments;
- 8 f. an estimate of the difference in short-term and long-term  
9 costs incurred by the State for the development, administration, and  
10 scoring of the current assessments and the PARCC assessments;
- 11 g. an estimate of the difference between the current State  
12 assessments and the PARCC assessments in the amount of time that  
13 students spend taking State-required standardized assessments;
- 14 h. the availability and feasibility of mechanisms, other than  
15 standardized assessments, to assess student, school, and district  
16 progress towards meeting State standards;
- 17 i. the number of school districts that use each of the  
18 commercially-available teacher and principal evaluation rubrics and  
19 the number of districts that use locally-developed teacher or  
20 principal evaluation rubrics that have been approved by the  
21 commissioner;
- 22 j. an analysis of the distribution of teachers' and principals'  
23 ratings across the four defined annual rating categories in the 2013-  
24 2014 school year, including a disaggregation by the evaluation  
25 rubric;
- 26 k. a statistical analysis correlating teachers' and principals'  
27 evaluations under the rubric used by the school district in the 2013-  
28 2014 school year and the measures of student growth determined  
29 for the teachers and principals in the same school year;
- 30 l. an estimate of the costs incurred by school districts during  
31 the implementation of the teacher and principal evaluation systems  
32 including, but not limited to, the cost of purchasing a commercially-  
33 available teacher and principal evaluation rubrics, professional  
34 development costs, and costs of hiring supervisory employees to  
35 perform teacher observations; and
- 36 m. an evaluation of issues related to the use and data mining of  
37 student and family personal data and a student's right to privacy.  
38 The task force shall consider, but not be limited to, data related to  
39 learning disabilities, student behavior, political affiliation, religious  
40 affiliation, and medical history.
- 41
- 42 6. The task force shall issue a final report to the Governor, and  
43 to the Legislature pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164  
44 (C.52:14-19.1), no later than one year after the task force organizes.  
45 Prior to issuing its final report, the task force shall hold at least four  
46 public hearings, with at least one public hearing in each of the  
47 northern, central, and southern regions of the State, to gather  
48 information regarding the implementation of the common core state

1 standards, the PARCC assessments, the teacher and principal  
2 evaluation systems, and alternative forms of assessment. The task  
3 force shall expire on the 30th day after the issuance of its final  
4 report.

5  
6 7. Notwithstanding the provisions of P.L.2012, c.26 (C.18A:6-  
7 117 et al.) or any other section of law or regulation to the contrary,  
8 the annual summative evaluation rating of a teaching staff member  
9 for any school year shall not include any student growth percentile  
10 prior to the submission of the final report by the Education Reform  
11 Review Task Force pursuant to section 6 of P.L. , c. (C. )  
12 (pending before the Legislature as this bill), or two years after the  
13 effective date of that act, whichever occurs later.

14 As used in this section, “student growth percentile” means a  
15 specific metric for measuring individual student progress on  
16 Statewide assessments by tracking how much a student’s test scores  
17 have changed relative to other students Statewide with similar  
18 scores in previous years.

19  
20 8. During the two school years beginning after the effective  
21 date of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill),  
22 a school district shall have the option of administering the PARCC  
23 assessment online, using a pencil and paper format, or a  
24 combination of the two formats.

25  
26 9. The Department of Education shall not use the PARCC  
27 assessment to satisfy the provisions of P.L.1979, c.241 (C.18A:7C-  
28 1 et seq.), or for any other student or school accountability  
29 purposes, including the inclusion on a student’s transcripts or in the  
30 report disseminated pursuant to P.L.1995, c.235 (C.18A:7E-1 et  
31 seq.), prior to the submission of the final report by the Education  
32 Reform Review Task Force pursuant to section 6 of P.L. , c. (C. )  
33 (pending before the Legislature as this bill), or two years after the  
34 effective date of that act, whichever occurs later.

35  
36 10. This act shall take effect immediately.