

SENATE, No. 300

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 216th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2014 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator RONALD L. RICE

District 28 (Essex)

Senator LINDA R. GREENSTEIN

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

SYNOPSIS

Establishes “New Jersey Out-of-School Time Advisory Commission” to review before-school, after-school and summer programs; appropriates \$60,000.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel



S300 RICE, GREENSTEIN

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1 AN ACT establishing the “New Jersey Out-of-School Time
2 Advisory Commission” and making an appropriation.

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 New Jersey Out-of-School Time
8 Advisory Commission. The commission shall consist of 19
9 members, including the Commissioners of Education, Human
10 Services, and Children and Families, ex officio, or their designees,
11 the Secretary of Higher Education, ex officio, or a designee, one
12 member of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate, one
13 member of the General Assembly appointed by the Speaker of the
14 General Assembly, and 13 public members appointed by the
15 Governor, including one representative from each of the following:
16 the New Jersey Council for Young Children; the Association for
17 Children of New Jersey; the New Jersey School Age Care
18 Coalition; the New Jersey Association of School Administrators;
19 the New Jersey Parent-Teacher Association; the Statewide Parent
20 Advocacy Network; the New Jersey Education Association; the
21 New Jersey State Federation of Teachers; the New Jersey School
22 Boards Association; the New Jersey Principals and Supervisors
23 Association; the New Jersey Charter Schools Association; the
24 Advisory Committee for Nonpublic Schools of the Department of
25 Education; and one academic researcher in the field of youth
26 development.

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28 2. All appointments shall be made within 30 days after the
29 effective date of this act. Vacancies in the membership of the
30 commission shall be filled in the same manner as the original
31 appointments were made. Members of the commission shall serve
32 without compensation but shall be entitled to their actual and
33 necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties
34 within the limits of funds made available to the commission for its
35 purposes.

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37 3. The commission shall organize within 30 days after the
38 appointment of its members and shall select a chairperson and a
39 vice-chairperson from among its Legislative members and a
40 secretary who need not be a member of the commission.

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42 4. The chairperson shall retain and may remove at his pleasure
43 a consultant and other such personnel as he may deem necessary for
44 the performance of the commission’s duties, and shall fix their
45 compensation within the amounts made available. The duties of the
46 consultant shall include, but need not be limited to, organizing
47 public hearings, conducting site visits, facilitating the interaction

1 between the commission and work groups, and preparing the
2 interim and final reports.

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4 5. It shall be the duty of the commission to:

5 a. assess the state of out-of-school time programs in New
6 Jersey by reviewing the policies of all State agencies that fund
7 before-school, after-school or summer programs, as well as review
8 existing research and best practices;

9 b. adopt appropriate Statewide standards for out-of-school time
10 program design, implementation and assessment;

11 c. examine the existing amount of funding available for out-of-
12 school time programs and the source of the funding; and

13 d. examine the development and operation of out-of-school
14 time programs in urban, suburban and rural school districts, and
15 make recommendations to increase the accountability and quality of
16 the before-school, after-school and summer programs.

17

18 6. Staff and related support services shall be provided to the
19 commission by the Department of Education. The commission shall
20 be entitled to call to its assistance and avail itself of the services of
21 the employees of any State, county or municipal department, board,
22 bureau, commission or agency as it may require and as may be
23 available for its purposes.

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25 7. The commission shall issue an interim report of its findings
26 and recommendations, including any recommended legislation, to
27 the Governor, the Senate Education Committee, and the Assembly
28 Education Committee, no later than one year after its organizational
29 meeting, and a final report no later than two years after its
30 organizational meeting.

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32 8. There is appropriated \$60,000 from the General Fund to the
33 commission to effectuate the purposes of this act.

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35 9. This act shall take place immediately and the commission
36 shall expire 30 days after the submission of the final report.

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STATEMENT

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41 This bill establishes a New Jersey Out-of-School Time Advisory
42 Commission. Under the bill, the commission will consist of 19
43 members including the Commissioners of Education, Human
44 Services, and Children and Families, ex officio, or their designees,
45 the Secretary of Higher Education, ex officio, or a designee, one
46 member of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate, one
47 member of the General Assembly appointed by the Speaker of the

1 General Assembly, and 13 public members appointed by the
2 Governor, including one representative from each of the following:
3 the New Jersey Council for Young Children; the Association for
4 Children of New Jersey; the New Jersey School Age Care
5 Coalition; the New Jersey Association of School Administrators;
6 the New Jersey Parent-Teacher Association; the Statewide Parent
7 Advocacy Network; the New Jersey Education Association; the
8 New Jersey State Federation of Teachers; the New Jersey School
9 Boards Association; the New Jersey Principals and Supervisors
10 Association; the New Jersey Charter Schools Association; the
11 Advisory Committee for Nonpublic Schools of the Department of
12 Education; and one academic researcher in the field of youth
13 development.

14 The duties of the commission will be to:

15 (1) assess the state of out-of-school time programs in New
16 Jersey by reviewing the policies of all State agencies that fund
17 before-school, after-school or summer programs, as well as review
18 existing research and best practices;

19 (2) adopt appropriate Statewide standards for out-of-school time
20 program design, implementation and assessment;

21 (3) examine the existing amount of funding available for out-of-
22 school time programs and the source of the funding; and

23 (4) examine the development and operation of out-of-school
24 time programs in urban, suburban and rural school districts, and
25 make recommendations to increase the accountability and quality of
26 the before-school, after-school and summer programs.

27 The bill directs the commission to issue an interim report of its
28 findings and recommendations, including any recommended
29 legislation, to the Governor, the Senate Education Committee, and
30 the Assembly Education Committee, no later than one year after its
31 organizational meeting, and a final report no later than two years
32 after its organizational meeting. The commission will expire 30
33 days after the submission of the final report.