

SENATE, No. 1455

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
217th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 16, 2016

Sponsored by:
Senator M. TERESA RUIZ
District 29 (Essex)

SYNOPSIS

Requires full-day kindergarten in all school districts.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



S1455 RUIZ

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1 AN ACT concerning full-day kindergarten in public schools and
2 amending N.J.S.18A:44-2.

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

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7 1. N.J.S.18A:44-2 is amended to read as follows:

8 18A:44-2. a. The board of education of **[any]** a district **[may]**
9 shall establish a kindergarten school or kindergarten department,
10 which in order to receive State aid shall be a one-year program in
11 advance of or in preparation for entrance to first grade, in any
12 school under its control, and may admit to such kindergarten school
13 or department any child over the age of four and under the age of
14 five and shall admit to such kindergarten school or department any
15 child over the age of five and under the age of six years who is a
16 resident of the district.

17 b. A kindergarten school or kindergarten department established
18 by a board of education shall provide a full-day kindergarten
19 program. A school district that is not providing a full-day
20 kindergarten program prior to the effective date of P.L. , c.
21 (pending before the Legislature as this bill) shall provide a full-day
22 kindergarten program no later than the beginning of the second full
23 school year following that effective date.

24 (cf: P.L.1996, c.138, s.72)

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26 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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31 This bill requires all school districts to provide full-day
32 kindergarten programs for their students. If a school district does
33 not currently provide full-day kindergarten, then the district would
34 be required to begin offering a full-day kindergarten program by the
35 beginning of the second full school year following the bill's
36 enactment.

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.**

Matter underlined thus is new matter.