Sponsored by:
Assemblyman SEAN T. KEAN
District 30 (Monmouth and Ocean)
Assemblywoman NANCY F. MUNOZ
District 21 (Morris, Somerset and Union)
Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE
District 37 (Bergen)

Co-Sponsored by:
Assemblymen Wolfe, Mukherji, Giblin, Assemblywomen Timberlake and Jasey

SYNOPSIS
Requires school districts to provide instruction on water safety as part of New Jersey Student Learning Standards for Comprehensive Health and Physical Education.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT
Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.
AN ACT concerning the provision of water safety instruction in
public school curriculum and supplementing chapter 35 of Title
18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

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

1. a. Beginning with the 2018-2019 school year, each school
district shall incorporate instruction on water safety into the health
education curriculum for students in grades K through 12 as part of
the district’s implementation of the New Jersey Student Learning
Standards for Comprehensive Health and Physical Education.

b. The instruction shall provide students with information on:
   (1) the proper use of flotation devices;
   (2) how to become aware of water conditions;
   (3) the danger of rip currents and how to respond if caught in one;
   and
   (4) the importance of swimming in areas monitored by a lifeguard.

2. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

This bill requires each school district to incorporate instruction
on water safety into the health education curriculum for students in
grades K through 12 as part of the district’s implementation of the
New Jersey Student Learning Standards for Comprehensive Health
and Physical Education, beginning with the 2018-2019 school year.
The instruction must provide information on: the proper use of
flotation devices; how to become aware of water conditions; the
danger of rip currents and how to respond if caught in one; and the
importance of swimming in areas monitored by a lifeguard.

Drownings are the fifth leading cause of accidental death in the
United States according to the Centers for Disease Control. While
New Jersey students participate in drills for fire and active shooter
crises, they do not receive instruction on what to do if you are
drowning or see someone drowning.