ASSEMBLY, No. 1428 STATE OF NEW JERSEY 218th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2018 SESSION

Sponsored by: Assemblywoman ANGELA V. MCKNIGHT District 31 (Hudson) Assemblywoman ANNETTE CHAPARRO District 33 (Hudson) Assemblyman NICHOLAS CHIARAVALLOTI District 31 (Hudson) Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE District 37 (Bergen)

Co-Sponsored by: Assemblywomen DiMaso and Mosquera

SYNOPSIS

Establishes Child Trafficking Awareness Pilot Program in DOE to train school district staff to identify student victims.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 2/13/2018)

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AN ACT establishing the Child Trafficking Awareness Pilot
 Program in the Department of Education and supplementing
 chapter 6 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

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

8 1. a. The Commissioner of Education shall develop and 9 administer a three-year Child Trafficking Awareness Pilot Program to provide school district staff in selected districts with training on 10 how to identify and respond to child trafficking. The commissioner 11 12 shall select two districts in each of the southern, central, and 13 northern regions of the State to participate in the program and shall 14 seek a cross section of school districts from urban, suburban, and 15 rural areas of the State.

The purpose of the pilot program shall be to train public 16 b. 17 school teachers and staff on ways to identify student victims of 18 child trafficking and help prevent child trafficking in schools. The 19 program shall include information that promotes a greater understanding of: risk factors that make children more susceptible 20 to becoming a victim of child trafficking; recruitment methods of 21 22 traffickers; behavioral indicators that a student may be a victim of 23 possible child trafficking; and how to report suspected cases of 24 child trafficking to school administrators and law enforcement.

c. The commissioner shall provide pilot districts with sample
school policies and protocols for identifying a suspected victim of
child trafficking and responding to a disclosure from a student that
he is a victim of child trafficking.

d. At the conclusion of the pilot program, the commissioner
shall submit a report to the Governor, and to the Legislature pursuant
to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1). The report shall
contain information on the implementation of the pilot program and
shall include the commissioner's recommendation on the feasibility
of implementing the program on a Statewide basis.

36 2. This act shall take effect in the first full school year37 following the date of enactment.

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STATEMENT

This bill directs the Commissioner of Education to develop and administer a three-year Child Trafficking Awareness Pilot Program to provide school district staff in selected districts with training on how to identify and respond to child trafficking. The purpose of the pilot program will be to train public school teachers and staff on ways to identify student victims of child trafficking and help prevent child trafficking in schools. The program will include

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information that promotes a greater understanding of: risk factors
that make children more susceptible to becoming a victim of child
trafficking; recruitment methods of traffickers; the behavioral
indicators that a student may be a victim of child trafficking; and
how to report suspected cases of child trafficking to school
administrators and law enforcement.
Under the bill, the commissioner is required to provide pilot

districts with sample school policies and protocols for identifying a suspected victim of child trafficking and responding to a disclosure from a suspected victim. At the program's conclusion, the commissioner is required to submit a report to the Governor and the Legislature on the implementation of the pilot program and the commissioner's recommendation on the feasibility of implementing the program on a Statewide basis.