

[Second Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 1428

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
218th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2018 SESSION

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SYNOPSIS

Requires Department of Education to develop guidelines for school districts concerning child trafficking awareness and prevention.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As amended by the Senate on March 14, 2019.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/24/2019)

1 AN ACT ²**[**establishing the Child Trafficking Awareness Pilot
 2 Program in the Department of Education] concerning child
 3 trafficking awareness for school districts² and supplementing
 4 chapter ²**[6]** 36² of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

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

8
 9 ²**[**1. a. The Commissioner of Education shall develop and
 10 administer a three-year Child Trafficking Awareness Pilot Program
 11 to provide school district staff ¹and students¹ in selected districts
 12 with training ¹**[**on how to identify and respond to child trafficking**]**
 13 about the warning signs and risk factors associated with child
 14 trafficking and how to prevent child trafficking¹. The
 15 commissioner shall select two districts in each of the southern,
 16 central, and northern regions of the State to participate in the
 17 program and shall seek a cross section of school districts from
 18 urban, suburban, and rural areas of the State.

19 b. The purpose of the pilot program shall be to train public
 20 school teachers¹**[**and¹],¹ staff ¹**[**on¹],¹ and students about child
 21 trafficking, including risk factors and warning signs, and¹ ways to
 22 identify student victims of child trafficking and help prevent child
 23 trafficking in schools. The program shall include information
 24 ¹based on reseach¹ that promotes a greater understanding of: risk
 25 factors that make children more susceptible to becoming a victim of
 26 child trafficking; recruitment methods of traffickers; behavioral
 27 indicators that a student may be a victim of possible child
 28 trafficking; ¹**[**and¹]¹ how to report suspected cases of child
 29 trafficking to school administrators and law enforcement¹; and
 30 strategies to prevent children from becoming victims of child
 31 trafficking¹.

32 c. The commissioner shall provide pilot districts with ¹a list of
 33 resources from established and reliable sources for training public
 34 school teachers, staff, and students, as well as¹ sample school
 35 policies and protocols for identifying a suspected victim of child
 36 trafficking and responding to a disclosure from a student that he is a
 37 victim of child trafficking.

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

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[**thus¹**]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Assembly AWC committee amendments adopted February 12, 2018.

²Senate floor amendments adopted March 14, 2019.

1 ²1. a. The Department of Education, in consultation with the
2 Office of the Attorney General and the Department of Children and
3 Families, shall develop and distribute to school districts guidelines
4 concerning child trafficking. The purpose of the guidelines shall be
5 to provide direction for schools in creating awareness of child
6 trafficking, including warning signs and risk factors associated with
7 child trafficking and how to prevent child trafficking.

8 b. The guidelines shall include, but not be limited to, research-
9 based information and guidance regarding the following:

10 (1) definitions and terms relevant to an understanding of child
11 trafficking;

12 (2) resources and information to provide training for teachers,
13 staff, and students regarding child trafficking;

14 (3) resources and information to create a greater understanding
15 of risk factors that make children more susceptible to becoming a
16 victim of child trafficking, recruitment of traffickers, and
17 behavioral indicators that a student may be a victim of possible
18 child trafficking;

19 (4) how to report a suspected case of child trafficking to school
20 administrators and law enforcement;

21 (5) strategies to prevent children from becoming victims of
22 child trafficking; and

23 (6) procedures for ensuring confidentiality and privacy.²
24

25 ²2. The Commissioner of Education shall provide school
26 districts with guidance and resources regarding the following:

27 a. professional development opportunities for teachers,
28 administrators, guidance counselors, coaches, and other school staff
29 regarding issues and concerns relevant to child trafficking
30 awareness; and

31 b. developmentally appropriate resources regarding child
32 trafficking awareness.²
33

34 ²[2.] 3.² This act shall take effect ²[in the first full school year
35 following the date of enactment] immediately².