ASSEMBLY, No. 4848

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JANUARY 15, 2019

Sponsored by:
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District 18 (Middlesex)
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SYNOPSIS
Establishes task force to examine and make recommendations regarding implementation of “Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act.”

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT
As introduced.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 2/1/2019)
AN ACT establishing a Task Force to examine the “Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act.”

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

   b. The task force shall consist of 11 members as follows:
      (1) nine members who each have a background in, or special knowledge of, the legal, policy, educational, social, or psychological aspects of bullying in public schools. These nine members shall be appointed as follows: two appointed by the Senate President; two appointed by the Speaker of the General Assembly; and five appointed by the Governor; and
      (2) two members of the public, to be appointed by the Governor, one of whom is a family member of a student who has experienced bullying and one of whom is a student over the age of 17 who personally has experienced bullying.
   c. Appointments to the task force shall be made within 30 days of the effective date of this act. Vacancies in the membership of the task force shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointments were made.
   d. Members of the task force shall serve without compensation, but shall be reimbursed for necessary expenditures incurred in the performance of their duties as members of the task force within the limits of funds appropriated or otherwise made available to the task force for its purposes.

2. a. The task force shall organize as soon as practicable, but no later than 30 days following the appointment of its members. The task force shall choose a chairperson from among its members and shall appoint a secretary who need not be a member of the task force.
   b. The Department of Education shall provide such stenographic, clerical, and other administrative assistants, and such professional staff as the task force requires to carry out its work. The task force also shall be entitled to call to its assistance and avail itself of the services of the employees of any State, county, or municipal department, board, bureau, commission, or agency as it may require and as may be available for its purposes.

3. a. It shall be the duty of the task force to study and evaluate the current implementation of the “Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act,” to identify areas for improvement, and to make
recommendations regarding any appropriate changes or updates to
the law. The task force shall:
  (1) examine and evaluate the effectiveness of the
implementation of the “Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act” in the
schools of the State;
  (2) examine any unintended consequences resulting from
implementation of the “Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act” and the
regulations promulgated pursuant to the act including, but not
limited to, impacts of the law on athletic coaches; and
  (3) present any recommendations deemed necessary and
appropriate to modify or update the “Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights
Act” and its implementing regulations.
b. The task force shall hold at least one public hearing during
the course of its work in order to receive public input on the issues
being studied by the task force.

4. The task force shall issue a final report of its findings and
recommendations to the Governor, and to the Legislature pursuant
to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), no later than 180
days after the task force organizes.

5. This act shall take effect immediately, and the task force
shall expire 30 days after the issuance of its report.

STATEMENT

This bill establishes an eleven-member task force to examine,
evaluate, and make recommendations regarding the “Anti-Bullying
amended and supplemented by P.L.2010, c.122 (C.18A:37-
13.1 et al.). Nine members of the task force will have a background
in, or special knowledge of, the legal, policy, educational, social, or
psychological aspects of bullying in public schools. Two of these
members will be appointed by the Senate President, two will be
appointed by the Speaker of the General Assembly, and five will be
appointed by the Governor. The task force also will include two
members of the public, one of whom is a family member of a
student who has experienced bullying and one of whom is a student
over the age of 17 who personally has experienced bullying.

Under the bill, the task force is charged with studying and
evaluating the current implementation of the “Anti-Bullying Bill of
Rights Act,” identifying areas for improvement, and making
recommendations regarding any appropriate changes or updates to
the law. The task force will:
  • examine and evaluate the effectiveness of the
    implementation of the “Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act” in
    the schools of the State;
• examine any unintended consequences resulting from implementation of the “Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act” and the regulations promulgated pursuant to the act, including, but not limited to, impacts of the law on athletic coaches; and
• present any recommendations deemed necessary and appropriate to modify or update the “Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act” and its implementing regulations.

The task force will hold at least one public hearing during the course of its work to receive public input on these issues. The task force is required to issue a final report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature within 180 days of its organization.