

# ASSEMBLY, No. 4848

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JANUARY 15, 2019

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman ROBERT J. KARABINCHAK**

**District 18 (Middlesex)**

**Assemblywoman VERLINA REYNOLDS-JACKSON**

**District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Assemblymen Chiaravalloti, Schaer and Peterson**

**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)**

1 AN ACT establishing a Task Force to examine the “Anti-Bullying  
2 Bill of Rights Act.”

3

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

6

7 1. a. There is established a task force for the purpose of  
8 examining, evaluating, and making recommendations regarding the  
9 “Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act,” P.L.2002, c.83 (C.18A:37-  
10 13 et seq.), as amended and supplemented by P.L.2010, c.122  
11 (C.18A:37-13.1 et al.).

12 b. The task force shall consist of 11 members as follows:

13 (1) nine members who each have a background in, or special  
14 knowledge of, the legal, policy, educational, social, or  
15 psychological aspects of bullying in public schools. These nine  
16 members shall be appointed as follows: two appointed by the Senate  
17 President; two appointed by the Speaker of the General Assembly;  
18 and five appointed by the Governor; and

19 (2) two members of the public, to be appointed by the Governor,  
20 one of whom is a family member of a student who has experienced  
21 bullying and one of whom is a student over the age of 17 who  
22 personally has experienced bullying.

23 c. Appointments to the task force shall be made within 30 days  
24 of the effective date of this act. Vacancies in the membership of the  
25 task force shall be filled in the same manner as the original  
26 appointments were made.

27 d. Members of the task force shall serve without compensation,  
28 but shall be reimbursed for necessary expenditures incurred in the  
29 performance of their duties as members of the task force within the  
30 limits of funds appropriated or otherwise made available to the task  
31 force for its purposes.

32

33 2. a. The task force shall organize as soon as practicable, but  
34 no later than 30 days following the appointment of its members.  
35 The task force shall choose a chairperson from among its members  
36 and shall appoint a secretary who need not be a member of the task  
37 force.

38 b. The Department of Education shall provide such  
39 stenographic, clerical, and other administrative assistants, and such  
40 professional staff as the task force requires to carry out its work.  
41 The task force also shall be entitled to call to its assistance and avail  
42 itself of the services of the employees of any State, county, or  
43 municipal department, board, bureau, commission, or agency as it  
44 may require and as may be available for its purposes.

45

46 3. a. It shall be the duty of the task force to study and evaluate  
47 the current implementation of the “Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights  
48 Act,” to identify areas for improvement, and to make

1 recommendations regarding any appropriate changes or updates to  
2 the law. The task force shall:

3 (1) examine and evaluate the effectiveness of the  
4 implementation of the “Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act” in the  
5 schools of the State;

6 (2) examine any unintended consequences resulting from  
7 implementation of the “Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act” and the  
8 regulations promulgated pursuant to the act including, but not  
9 limited to, impacts of the law on athletic coaches; and

10 (3) present any recommendations deemed necessary and  
11 appropriate to modify or update the “Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights  
12 Act” and its implementing regulations.

13 b. The task force shall hold at least one public hearing during  
14 the course of its work in order to receive public input on the issues  
15 being studied by the task force.

16

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

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

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#### STATEMENT

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28 This bill establishes an eleven-member task force to examine,  
29 evaluate, and make recommendations regarding the “Anti-Bullying  
30 Bill of Rights Act,” P.L.2002, c.83 (C.18A:37-13 et seq.), as  
31 amended and supplemented by P.L.2010, c.122 (C.18A:37-  
32 13.1 et al.). Nine members of the task force will have a background  
33 in, or special knowledge of, the legal, policy, educational, social, or  
34 psychological aspects of bullying in public schools. Two of these  
35 members will be appointed by the Senate President, two will be  
36 appointed by the Speaker of the General Assembly, and five will be  
37 appointed by the Governor. The task force also will include two  
38 members of the public, one of whom is a family member of a  
39 student who has experienced bullying and one of whom is a student  
40 over the age of 17 who personally has experienced bullying.

41 Under the bill, the task force is charged with studying and  
42 evaluating the current implementation of the “Anti-Bullying Bill of  
43 Rights Act,” identifying areas for improvement, and making  
44 recommendations regarding any appropriate changes or updates to  
45 the law. The task force will:

46 • examine and evaluate the effectiveness of the  
47 implementation of the “Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act” in  
48 the schools of the State;

- 1       • examine any unintended consequences resulting from  
2       implementation of the “Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act”  
3       and the regulations promulgated pursuant to the act,  
4       including, but not limited to, impacts of the law on athletic  
5       coaches; and  
6       • present any recommendations deemed necessary and  
7       appropriate to modify or update the “Anti-Bullying Bill of  
8       Rights Act” and its implementing regulations.  
9       The task force will hold at least one public hearing during the  
10      course of its work to receive public input on these issues.  
11      The task force is required to issue a final report of its  
12      findings and recommendations to the Governor and the  
13      Legislature within 180 days of its organization.