

SENATE, No. 2789

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 25, 2018

Sponsored by:

Senator JEFF VAN DREW

District 1 (Atlantic, Cape May and Cumberland)

Senator STEVEN V. OROHO

District 24 (Morris, Sussex and Warren)

Senator ANTHONY R. BUCCO

District 25 (Morris and Somerset)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senator Brown

SYNOPSIS

Directs DOE to develop Veterans in the Schools Program to teach students about military experiences of local veterans.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 7/27/2018)

1 AN ACT concerning veteran education in public schools and
2 supplementing chapter 35 of Title 18A of the New Jersey
3 statutes.

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

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8 1. a. The Commissioner of Education shall develop
9 guidelines for school districts for the implementation of a Veterans
10 in the Schools Program. The purpose of the program shall be to
11 educate students on the service and experiences of veterans and to
12 recognize the contributions veterans have made to our nation.
13 Under the program, participating school districts shall invite local
14 veterans to schools to speak to students about their military service
15 and experiences. The program shall include a student participation
16 component, such as pertinent reading or writing assignments or
17 opportunities for students to share their own families' stories of
18 military service. In developing guidelines for the program, the
19 commissioner shall consult with the Department of Military and
20 Veterans' Affairs, veterans who reside in the State, and school
21 personnel.

22 b. A school district, in accordance with the guidelines
23 developed by the commissioner, may establish a Veterans in the
24 Schools Program for students in grades seven through 12. The
25 program may be conducted in a school assembly format or in
26 individual classrooms. A school district that establishes a Veterans
27 in the Schools Program may work collaboratively with the
28 Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs, the county veterans
29 service office, and veterans organizations to implement the
30 program.

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32 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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37 This bill directs the Commissioner of Education to develop
38 guidelines for school districts for the implementation of a Veterans
39 in the Schools Program. The program's purpose is to educate
40 students on the service and experiences of veterans and to recognize
41 the contributions veterans have made to our nation. Under the
42 program, participating school districts will invite local veterans to
43 schools to speak to students about their military service and
44 experiences. The program also will include a student participation
45 component, such as pertinent reading or writing assignments or
46 opportunities for students to share their own families' stories of
47 military service.

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1 Under the bill, school districts may establish a Veterans in the
2 Schools Program for students in grades seven through 12. The
3 program will follow the guidelines developed by the commissioner
4 and may be implemented in collaboration with the Department of
5 Military and Veterans' Affairs, the local county veterans service
6 office, and veterans organizations.