

[First Reprint]

SENATE, No. 3172

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED NOVEMBER 26, 2018

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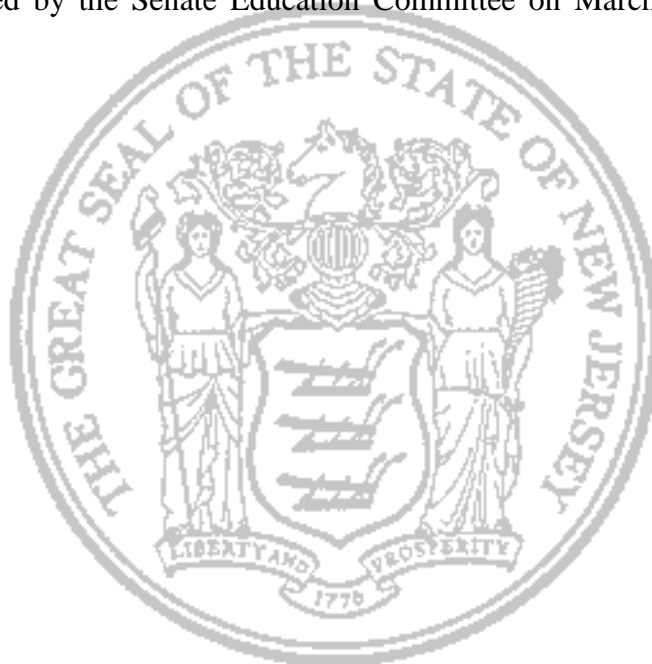
Senators Greenstein and Gopal

SYNOPSIS

Requires public school instruction in mental health as it relates to suicide prevention and provides various elements which may be included in instruction.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Senate Education Committee on March 4, 2019, with amendments.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/15/2019)

1 AN ACT concerning public school instruction in suicide prevention
2 and amending P.L.2005, c.310.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

6
7 1. Section 3 of P.L.2005, c.310 (C.18A:6-113) is amended to
8 read as follows:

9 3. ¹**【**Within 180 days of the effective date of this act, the **】** The¹
10 State Board of Education shall revise the ¹**【**Core Curriculum
11 Content**】** New Jersey Student Learning¹ Standards in
12 Comprehensive Health and Physical Education to provide for
13 instruction in suicide prevention , and mental health as it relates to
14 suicide prevention, in an appropriate place in the curriculum of
15 **【**elementary school, middle school, and high school pupils**】**
16 students in ¹【each of the grades kindergarten through 12】
17 elementary school, middle school, and high school¹. The instruction
18 shall incorporate evidence-based standards and shall be adapted to
19 the age and understanding of the students. The instruction ¹【, at a
20 minimum, shall】 may¹ include the following elements:
21 a. the concept of wellness including self-care and personal
22 responsibility for one's own mental health and wellness;
23 b. the concept of mental health as an integral part of health;
24 c. recognition of the warning signs of suicide;
25 d. awareness of the risk of suicide and self-harm;
26 e. the relationship between mental health, substance abuse, and
27 other negative coping behaviors;
28 f. the negative impact of stigma and cultural attitudes toward
29 mental illness;
30 g. the implications of risk factors, protective factors, and
31 resiliency on mental health and wellness; and
32 h. identifying appropriate professionals, services, and family
33 supports for suicide prevention.

34 (cf: P.L.2005, c.310, s.3)

35
36 2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall first apply to
37 the first full school year following the date of enactment.

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **【thus】** 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:

¹Senate SED committee amendments adopted March 4, 2019.