

ASSEMBLY, No. 3052

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 20, 2020

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman PAMELA R. LAMPITT

District 6 (Burlington and Camden)

SYNOPSIS

Requires DOE to maintain list of textbook vendors that use inclusive material and school districts to use textbooks from those vendors.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning textbooks used in public schools and
2 supplementing chapter 34 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. As used in this section:

9 “Inclusive material” means content in a textbook that reflects
10 diversity in various categories including gender, race, ethnicity, and
11 sexual orientation.

12 “Textbook” means books, workbooks, or manuals, whether
13 bound or in looseleaf form, or electronic textbooks, intended as the
14 principal source of study material for a given class.

15 b. The Department of Education shall develop and maintain a
16 list of textbook vendors that incorporate inclusive material in their
17 textbooks. The list shall be distributed to school districts and shall
18 be made publicly available on the department’s website. Following
19 the effective date of this act, when a school district determines to
20 acquire a new textbook, the district shall select the textbook from a
21 vendor that is included on the department’s list.

22 c. Notwithstanding subsection b. of this section, a school
23 district may propose to the Commissioner of Education a textbook
24 vendor that is not currently on the list maintained by the
25 department, and may acquire and use textbooks from that vendor
26 upon the approval of the commissioner.

27 d. The provisions of this section shall not apply to textbooks
28 acquired by a school district using the Statewide textbook bank
29 created pursuant to section 1 of P.L.2002, c.98 (C.18A:34-3).

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31 2. This act shall take effect on the first day of the seventh
32 month next following the date of enactment.

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STATEMENT

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37 This bill requires the Department of Education to develop and
38 maintain a list of textbook vendors that incorporate inclusive
39 material in their textbooks and to distribute the list to school
40 districts and make the list publicly available on the department’s
41 website. “Inclusive material” as defined in the bill means content in
42 a textbook that reflects diversity in various categories including
43 gender, race, ethnicity, and sexual orientation. Under the bill, when
44 a school district determines to acquire a new textbook, the district
45 will be required to select the textbook from a vendor that is
46 included on the department’s list. Notwithstanding, the bill allows
47 a school district to propose to the Commissioner of Education a
48 textbook vendor that is not currently on the department’s list and to

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1 acquire and use textbooks from that vendor upon the approval of the
2 commissioner. The requirements of the bill would not apply to
3 textbooks acquired by a school district using the Statewide textbook
4 bank created pursuant to section 1 of P.L.2002, c.98 (C.18A:34-3).