

SENATE, No. 455

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator MICHAEL J. DOHERTY

District 23 (Hunterdon, Somerset and Warren)

SYNOPSIS

Declares the rights of a parent to be fundamental and not subject to infringement by the State absent compelling need.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 AN ACT concerning the rights of parents and supplementing Title 9
2 of the New Jersey Statutes.

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

7 1. Parental Rights Protected.

8 It is a natural and fundamental right of a parent to direct the
9 upbringing, education, and care of their child. This right shall not
10 be infringed absent clear and convincing evidence that the need
11 therefor is compelling.

13 2. Applicability a. The provisions of P.L. c. (C.)
14 (pending before the Legislature as this bill) shall apply to all laws
15 of this State, whether statutory or otherwise, and whether enacted
16 before or after this act.

b. Laws enacted after the date of P.L. c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill) are subject to the provisions of this act unless such law explicitly excludes such application.

21 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

26 This bill declares the rights of parents to direct the upbringing,
27 education, and care of their child. Under the bill, the rights of
28 parents shall not be infringed by the State absent clear and
29 convincing evidence that the governmental interest as applied to the
30 person is not otherwise served.