

**SENATE, No. 2698**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**219th LEGISLATURE**

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INTRODUCED JULY 16, 2020

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator M. TERESA RUIZ**

**District 29 (Essex)**

**Senator SHIRLEY K. TURNER**

**District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires State to enter into contract for COVID-19 related goods and services for purchase by school districts.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 8/20/2020)**

1 AN ACT concerning a State contract for the purchase of COVID-19  
2 related materials by school districts.

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

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7 1. a. Notwithstanding any provision of law, rule, or regulation  
8 to the contrary, the Director of the Division of Purchase and Property  
9 in the Department of the Treasury, in consultation with the  
10 Commissioner of the Department of Education, shall award a  
11 contract or contracts, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 34  
12 of Title 52 of the Revised Statutes, for the procurement of COVID-  
13 19 related goods and services, as specified by the commissioner, that  
14 aid in meeting the COVID-19 guidelines issued by the Centers for  
15 Disease Control and Prevention. The director, in consultation with  
16 the commissioner, may make awards to multiple bidders in  
17 accordance with section 1 of P.L.1986, c.26 (C.52:34-12.1).  
18 Advertised bidding shall not be required to award a contract or  
19 contracts to obtain those goods and services necessary to address the  
20 public exigency when the Division of Purchase of Property provides  
21 preapproval.

22 b. The board of education of a school district, without  
23 advertising for bids, or after having rejected all bids obtained  
24 pursuant to advertising therefor, may purchase COVID-19 related  
25 goods and services, upon adoption of a resolution, through the  
26 contract or contracts for such goods and services entered into by the  
27 Division of Purchase and Property pursuant to the provisions of  
28 subsection a. of this section.

29 c. The Department of Education shall coordinate the purchase of  
30 COVID-19 related goods and services by school districts that seek to  
31 purchase the goods and services in accordance with subsection b. of  
32 this section.

33 d. As used in this section:

34 “Board of education” means and includes the board of education  
35 of any local school district, consolidated school district, regional  
36 school district, county vocational school and any other board of  
37 education or other similar body, other than the State Board of  
38 Education, the Commission on Higher Education or the Presidents'  
39 Council, established and operating under the provisions of Title 18A  
40 of the New Jersey Statutes and having authority to make purchases  
41 and to enter into contracts for the provision or performance of goods  
42 or services. The term "board of education" also shall include the  
43 board of trustees of a charter school established under  
44 P.L.1995, c.426 (C.18A:36A-1 et seq.).

45 “School district” means a local or regional school district  
46 established pursuant to chapter 8 or chapter 13 of Title 18A of the  
47 New Jersey Statutes, a county special services school district  
48 established pursuant to article 8 of chapter 46 of Title 18A of the New

1 Jersey Statutes, a county vocational school district established  
2 pursuant to article 3 of chapter 54 of Title 18A of the New Jersey  
3 Statutes, and a district under full State intervention pursuant to  
4 P.L.1987, c.399 (C.18A:7A-34 et al.).

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6 2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire on July  
7 1, 2022.

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10 STATEMENT

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12 This bill requires the State to award a contract for the purchase  
13 COVID-19 related goods and services by school districts. The goods  
14 and services would include medical supplies and devices, among  
15 other things. The State would not be limited to awarding contracts  
16 to one bidder. If it is deemed advantageous, the State may award  
17 contracts to more than one bidder to fill the necessary demand for  
18 COVID-19 related goods and services.

19 School districts throughout the State would then be permitted to  
20 purchase the goods and services under the contract. Under the bill,  
21 the Commissioner of the Department of Education would be required  
22 to coordinate the purchase of goods and services by the school  
23 districts.

24 This bill would expire on July 1, 2022.