

SENATE, No. 3533

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 11, 2021

Sponsored by:

Senator PATRICK J. DIEGNAN, JR.

District 18 (Middlesex)

SYNOPSIS

Establishes creative crosswalks pilot program.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT establishing a creative crosswalks pilot program and
2 supplementing Title 40 of the Revised Statutes.

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

6
7 1. a. The Commissioner of Transportation, in consultation
8 with the Commissioner of Education, shall establish a five-year
9 creative crosswalks pilot program that provides resources for
10 special crosswalk paving treatments. The purpose of the pilot
11 program shall be to install safe, cost efficient, and low-maintenance
12 painted crosswalks, known as “creative crosswalks,” designed by
13 public school students, by using a combination of colors, textures,
14 and scoring patterns to improve the visibility of and beautify an
15 existing marked crosswalk and to encourage public school students
16 to engage in creative arts.

17 b. The Commissioner of Transportation, in consultation with
18 the Commissioner of Education, shall establish policies and
19 procedures, consistent with the current standards prescribed by the
20 Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and
21 Highways, for the installation of creative crosswalks. The policies
22 shall include guidelines for the permissible designs of the creative
23 crosswalks. The policies shall be designed to create safer, more
24 noticeable crosswalks, while also encouraging creativity and
25 community engagement among public school students.

26 c. A public school that wants to participate in the pilot program
27 shall submit an application to the Commissioner of Education in
28 such form as required by the commissioner. The public school, as
29 part of the application, shall include information about the need for
30 creative arts activities in the school and documentation certifying
31 that the municipality in which the school is located has approved
32 the school to participate in the creative crosswalks pilot program.

33 d. The Commissioner of Education, in consultation with the
34 Department of Transportation, shall select up to 10 public schools
35 to participate in the pilot program each school year. The
36 commissioner shall select at least two public schools in each of the
37 northern, central, and southern regions of the State and shall seek a
38 cross section of public schools from urban, suburban, and rural
39 areas of the State.

40 e. Each public school student in the public schools selected to
41 participate in the pilot program may submit one design for a
42 creative crosswalk to the Commissioner of Education. The
43 Commissioner of Education shall select five of the submitted
44 designs from each public school each year to be installed in place of
45 existing crosswalks. The commissioner shall select the designs
46 based on the creativity and cost of the submitted design.

47 f. Not later than six months following completion of the pilot
48 program, the Commissioner of Transportation, in consultation with

1 the Commissioner of Education, shall provide a report to the
2 Governor and the Legislature, pursuant to section 2 of
3 P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), presenting information necessary to
4 assess the success of the pilot program, including information
5 assessing the safety of the creative crosswalks and public school
6 participation in the pilot program.

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8 2. This act shall take effect on October 1st of the first full
9 school calendar year following enactment.

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12 STATEMENT

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14 This bill requires the Commissioner of Transportation, in
15 consultation with the Commissioner of Education, to establish a
16 five-year creative crosswalks pilot program. The Commissioner of
17 Education, in consultation with the Commissioner of
18 Transportation, is required to select up to 10 public schools to
19 participate in the program each year. The Commissioner of
20 Education is required to select at least two public schools from each
21 of the northern, central, and southern regions of the State and is
22 required to seek a cross section of schools from urban, suburban,
23 and rural areas of the State. As part of the application to participate
24 in the program, a public school is required to provide information
25 about the need for creative arts activities in the school and
26 documentation certifying that the municipality in which the school
27 district is located has approved the school to participate in the pilot
28 program.

29 The purpose of the pilot program is to provide public schools
30 with resources to install safe, cost-efficient, and low-maintenance
31 painted crosswalks, known as “creative crosswalks,” designed by
32 public school students, by using a combination of colors, textures,
33 and scoring patterns to improve the visibility of and beautify an
34 existing crosswalk and to encourage public school students to
35 engage in creative arts.

36 Six months following the completion of the pilot program, the
37 Commissioner of Transportation and the Commissioner of
38 Education are to submit a report evaluating the success of the pilot
39 program.