

ASSEMBLY, No. 227

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1996 SESSION

By Assemblyman GARCIA

1 AN ACT providing for instructional programs on the prevention of
2 human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and acquired immune
3 deficiency syndrome (AIDS) and supplementing Title 18A of the
4 New Jersey Statutes.

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6 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
7 of New Jersey:

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9 1. The Legislature finds and declares that in just 10 years, the
10 human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), the causative agent of acquired
11 immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS), has claimed more American
12 lives than did the Korean and Vietnam wars combined; that New
13 Jersey ranks fifth in the nation in the number of its citizens infected
14 with HIV/AIDS; that AIDS is the sixth leading cause of death among
15 persons who are 15 to 24 years of age; that according to recent
16 reports, HIV is spreading rapidly and unchecked among adolescents,
17 regardless of socioeconomic status; and that not all students in New
18 Jersey are receiving an accurate or comprehensive education on the
19 subject of HIV/AIDS.

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21 2. Instructional programs on the nature and prevention of
22 HIV/AIDS shall be taught in each public school and in each grade in
23 a manner adapted to the age and understanding of the pupils. The
24 programs shall be based upon the curriculum guidelines established by
25 the Commissioner of Education pursuant to section 3 of this act and
26 shall be included in the curriculum for each grade in such a manner as
27 to provide a thorough and comprehensive treatment of the subject.

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29 3. The Commissioner of Education, in consultation with the
30 Commissioner of Health and community-based health care
31 professionals, shall develop curriculum guidelines for education
32 programs on the nature and prevention of HIV/AIDS which shall
33 provide a sequential course of study for each grade. The guidelines
34 shall be reviewed annually and updated as necessary to ensure that the
35 curriculum reflects the most current information available. The

1 guidelines shall include model instructional units, shall define specific
2 behavioral and learning objectives and shall recommend instructional
3 materials suitable for each grade level.

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5 4. a. Upon completion of the curriculum guidelines required
6 pursuant to section 3 of this act, the Commissioner of Education, in
7 consultation with the Commissioner of Health, shall establish
8 in-service workshops and training programs to train members of the
9 teaching staff who are responsible for HIV/AIDS education programs.
10 The in-service training programs may utilize existing county or
11 regional offices, or such other institutions, agencies or persons as the
12 Commissioner of Education deems appropriate. Each board of
13 education shall provide time for the in-service training during the usual
14 school schedule in order to ensure that appropriate teaching staff
15 members are prepared to teach the education program in each grade
16 in each school district.

17 b. Upon completion of the initial in-service training program, the
18 Commissioner of Education shall ensure that materials, programs and
19 workshops which reflect the most current information on the nature
20 and prevention of HIV/AIDS are prepared and made available to
21 teaching staff members at regular intervals.

22 c. In addition to providing in-service training programs for
23 teaching staff members who are responsible for instruction on the
24 nature and prevention of HIV/AIDS, the Commissioner of Education
25 shall make the training programs available to such other instructional
26 and supervisory personnel as the commissioner deems necessary and
27 appropriate.

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29 5. In addition to the provisions for in-service training established
30 pursuant to this act, the Commissioner of Education shall ensure that
31 the pre-service training of individuals intending to enter the teaching
32 profession includes adequate instruction on the nature and prevention
33 of HIV/AIDS.

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35 6. The Commissioner of Education, in consultation with the
36 Commissioner of Health, shall establish and administer a system for the
37 evaluation of the effectiveness of instructional programs instituted
38 pursuant to this act. Programs which are shown to be effective shall
39 be made available to other school districts throughout the State.

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41 7. The State Board of Education shall adopt, pursuant to the
42 "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et
43 seq.), rules and regulations necessary for the implementation of this
44 act.

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46 8. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

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3 This bill requires instructional programs on the nature and
4 prevention of HIV/AIDS to be taught in each public school and in
5 each grade in a manner appropriate for the age and understanding of
6 the pupils. The programs would be based upon curriculum guidelines
7 established by the Commissioner of Education, in consultation with the
8 Commissioner of Health and community-based health care
9 professionals, and would provide a sequential course of study for each
10 grade. The guidelines, to be reviewed annually and updated as
11 necessary, would include model instructional units, define specific
12 behavioral and learning objectives and recommend instructional
13 materials suitable for each grade level.

14 The Commissioner of Education, in consultation with the
15 Commissioner of Health, is required to establish in-service workshops
16 and training programs to train members of the teaching staff who are
17 responsible for the HIV/AIDS education programs. Each board of
18 education would provide time for the in-service training during the
19 usual school schedule in order to ensure that appropriate teaching staff
20 members are prepared to teach the education program. The
21 Commissioner of Education will ensure that materials, programs and
22 workshops which reflect the most current information on the nature
23 and prevention of HIV/AIDS are prepared and made available to
24 teaching staff members at regular intervals.

25 In addition to the provisions for in-service training, the
26 Commissioner of Education would also ensure that the pre-service
27 training of individuals intending to enter the teaching profession
28 includes adequate instruction on the nature and prevention of
29 HIV/AIDS.

30 Finally, the Commissioner of Education, in consultation with the
31 Commissioner of Health, is required to establish and administer a
32 system for the evaluation of the effectiveness of the instructional
33 programs and to make the most effective programs available to other
34 school districts throughout the State.

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39 Provides for instructional programs in each school grade on prevention
40 of HIV/AIDS.