

ASSEMBLY, No. 447

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1996 SESSION

By Assemblyman ROMA

1 AN ACT concerning instruction in dispute management and resolution
2 and supplementing chapter 35 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. Each board of education may offer instruction in dispute
9 management and resolution which shall be designed to:

10 a. develop an awareness and concern for the rights and well-being
11 of others;

12 b. provide insight into how attitudes are formed and decisions are
13 made;

14 c. provide an understanding of other cultures and the origins and
15 nature of conflict among cultures;

16 d. develop skills and attitudes for effective communication and
17 cooperation with people from different cultures;

18 e. improve dispute management and resolution skills; and

19 f. encourage creative problem solving through peaceful means,
20 including, but not limited to, mediation and arbitration.

21 The Department of Education shall establish guidelines to be used
22 by boards of education which offer instruction in dispute management
23 and resolution. In developing the guidelines, the department shall seek
24 advice from representatives of school boards, school administrators,
25 school counselors, classroom teachers, curriculum development
26 organizations, parents and students.

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28 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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33 This bill permits boards of education to offer instruction in dispute
34 management and resolution designed to cover such topics as the
35 development of awareness for the rights of others, the provision of

1 insight into how attitudes are formed and an understanding of other
2 cultures, the development of skills for effective communication with
3 people from other cultures, and the encouragement of creative
4 problem solving through peaceful means. The bill directs the
5 Department of Education to establish guidelines to be used by boards
6 of education which offer instruction in dispute management.

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11 Permits boards of education to offer instruction in dispute management
12 and resolution.