

# ASSEMBLY, No. 4454

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JULY 27, 2020

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywoman CAROL A. MURPHY**

**District 7 (Burlington)**

**Assemblywoman VERLINA REYNOLDS-JACKSON**

**District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywoman Vainieri Huttie**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires school districts to provide instruction on diversity and inclusion as part of New Jersey Student Learning Standards in Comprehensive Health and Physical Education.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 7/27/2020)**

1 AN ACT concerning diversity and inclusion instruction in school  
2 districts and supplementing chapter 35 of Title 18A of the New  
3 Jersey Statutes.

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

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8 1. a. Beginning in the 2021-2022 school year, each school  
9 district shall incorporate instruction on diversity and inclusion into  
10 the curriculum for students in grades 9 through 12 as part of the  
11 district's implementation of the New Jersey Student Learning  
12 Standards in Comprehensive Health and Physical Education.

13 b. The instruction shall:

14 (1) highlight and promote diversity, equity, inclusion, tolerance  
15 and belonging on topics including: gender and sexual orientation;  
16 race and ethnicity; disabilities; religious tolerance; and unconscious  
17 bias; and

18 (2) encourage safe, welcoming, and inclusive environments for  
19 all students regardless of race or ethnicity, sexual and gender  
20 identities, mental and physical disabilities, and religious beliefs.

21 c. The Commissioner of Education shall provide school  
22 districts with sample learning activities and resources designed to  
23 promote diversity and inclusion.

24  
25 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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#### STATEMENT

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30 This bill requires school districts to provide instruction on  
31 diversity and inclusion as part of the implementation of the New  
32 Jersey Student Learning Standards in Comprehensive Health and  
33 Physical Education for students in grades 9 through 12. The  
34 instruction is to:

35 • highlight and promote diversity, equity, inclusion, tolerance  
36 and belonging on topics including: gender and sexual  
37 orientation; race and ethnicity; disabilities; religious  
38 tolerance; and unconscious bias; and

39 • encourage safe, welcoming, and inclusive environments for  
40 all students regardless of race or ethnicity, sexual and gender  
41 identities, mental and physical disabilities, and religious  
42 beliefs.

43 Under the bill, the Commissioner of Education will provide  
44 school districts with sample learning activities and resources  
45 designed to promote diversity and inclusion.