

[First Reprint]

**ASSEMBLY, No. 4454**

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

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INTRODUCED JULY 27, 2020

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywoman CAROL A. MURPHY**

**District 7 (Burlington)**

**Assemblywoman VERLINA REYNOLDS-JACKSON**

**District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)**

**Assemblyman ANTHONY S. VERRELLI**

**District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

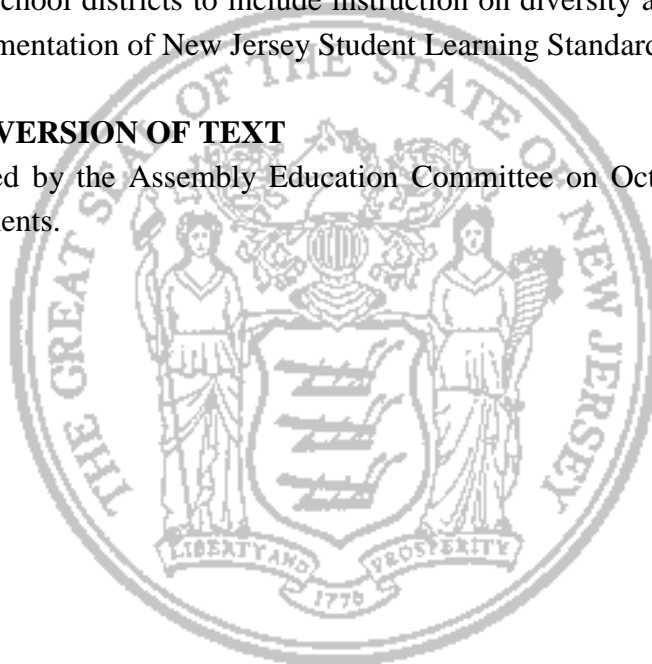
**Assemblywomen Vainieri Huttle, McKnight, Jasey, Lampitt,  
Assemblyman Wimberly, Assemblywomen Lopez, Timberlake, Carter,  
Swain and Assemblyman Tully**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires school districts to include instruction on diversity and inclusion as part of implementation of New Jersey Student Learning Standards.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As reported by the Assembly Education Committee on October 22, 2020, with amendments.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 10/29/2020)**

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:*

7

8 1. a. Beginning in the 2021-2022 school year, each school  
9 district shall incorporate instruction on diversity and inclusion  
10 <sup>1</sup>**["into"]** in an appropriate place in<sup>1</sup> the curriculum <sup>1</sup>**["for"]** of<sup>1</sup> students  
11 in grades 9 through 12 as part of the district's implementation of the  
12 New Jersey Student Learning Standards <sup>1</sup>**["in Comprehensive Health**  
13 **and Physical Education"]**<sup>1</sup>.

14 b. The instruction shall:

15 (1) highlight and promote diversity <sup>1</sup>, including economic  
16 diversity<sup>1</sup>, equity, inclusion, tolerance<sup>1</sup>, <sup>1</sup>and belonging <sup>1</sup>**["on topics**  
17 **including:"]** in connection with<sup>1</sup> gender and sexual orientation<sup>1</sup>**[";"]** <sup>1</sup>  
18 race and ethnicity<sup>1</sup>**[";"]** <sup>1</sup>disabilities<sup>1</sup>**[";"]** <sup>1</sup>, and<sup>1</sup> religious tolerance;  
19 <sup>1</sup>**["and unconscious bias; and"]**<sup>1</sup>

20 (2) <sup>1</sup>examine the impact that unconscious bias and economic  
21 disparities have at both an individual level and on society as a whole;  
22 and

23 (3)<sup>1</sup> encourage safe, welcoming, and inclusive environments for  
24 all students regardless of race or ethnicity, sexual and gender  
25 identities, mental and physical disabilities, and religious beliefs.

26 c. The Commissioner of Education shall provide school  
27 districts with sample learning activities and resources designed to  
28 promote diversity and inclusion.

29

30 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

**EXPLANATION** – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **["thus"]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

<sup>1</sup>Assembly AED committee amendments adopted October 22, 2020.