

[First Reprint]

SENATE, No. 3654

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED APRIL 19, 2021

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Assemblywoman ANNETTE QUIJANO

District 20 (Union)

Co-Sponsored by:

**Senators T.Kean, Turner, Assemblywomen Reynolds-Jackson and Vainieri
Huttle**

SYNOPSIS

Establishes Amistad Commission Exemplary Award Program; appropriates \$10,000.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Senate Education Committee on May 13, 2021, with amendments.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/21/2021)

1 AN ACT establishing the Amistad ¹**【Curriculum】** Commission
 2 Exemplary¹ Award Program, supplementing ¹**【chapter 35 of】**¹
 3 Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes, and making an
 4 appropriation.

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

8
 9 1. a. The ¹**【Commissioner of Education】** Amistad
 10 Commission¹ shall establish the “Amistad ¹**【Curriculum】**
 11 Commission Exemplary¹ Award Program.” The purpose of the
 12 program is to identify outstanding educators, ¹and the school
 13 district in which the educator is employed,¹ for special recognition
 14 who have shown a commitment to furthering student knowledge on
 15 the African slave trade, slavery in America, the vestiges of slavery
 16 in this country, and the contributions of African-Americans to our
 17 society.

18 b. The ¹**【commissioner】** commission¹ shall invite school
 19 districts, charter schools, and renaissance school projects to submit
 20 nominations, on an application to be developed by the
 21 ¹**【commissioner】** commission¹, by February 1 of each year of an
 22 exemplary teacher who deserves recognition for efforts to:

23 (1) ensure that all New Jersey students acquire a broad and deep
 24 knowledge of all people who contributed to the founding and
 25 development of New Jersey and the United States;

26 (2) promote the self-esteem, confidence, and identity of students
 27 who previously may not have learned about past and living
 28 examples of people of their own cultural identity who have had
 29 positive impacts upon the American story; and

30 (3) provide exemplary lessons, units of study, or courses of
 31 study that demonstrate effective instruction of students in alignment
 32 with the Amistad curriculum and which lessons, units, or courses of
 33 study may be replicated by other educators.

34 c. Recipients of the Amistad ¹**【Curriculum】** Commission
 35 Exemplary¹ Award shall be named annually by the Amistad
 36 ¹**【Curriculum】** Commission Exemplary¹ Award Committee. The
 37 committee shall be an ad hoc committee, the members of which¹,
 38 except for the executive director of the Amistad Commission,¹ shall
 39 be appointed annually. The committee shall be comprised of the
 40 following members:

41 (1) one member appointed by the Governor;

42 (2) one member of the Senate appointed by the President of the
 43 Senate;

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:

¹Senate SED committee amendments adopted May 13, 2021.

- 1 (3) one member of the General Assembly appointed by the
2 Speaker of the General Assembly;
- 3 (4) one member appointed by the New Jersey Education
4 Association; ¹~~and~~¹
- 5 (5) one member appointed by the New Jersey Principals and
6 Supervisors Association ¹; and
- 7 (6) the executive director of the Amistad Commission, or a
8 designee, who shall serve as the chair of the Amistad Commission
9 Exemplary Award Committee¹.
- 10 d. The award committee shall annually select two teachers to
11 receive the Amistad ¹~~Curriculum~~¹ Commission Exemplary¹
12 Award: one teacher from a school that provides instruction in any of
13 the grades kindergarten through eight; and one teacher from a
14 school that provides instruction in any of the grades nine through
15 12. Recipients of this award shall each receive \$2,500 in
16 recognition of their extraordinary contributions.
- 17 ¹e. Each school district in which the award recipient selected
18 pursuant to the provisions of subsection d. of this section is
19 employed shall also receive the Amistad Commission Exemplary
20 Award. Each school district that receives an award under the
21 provisions of this subsection shall receive \$2,500, which shall be
22 used to assist other teachers in the school district implement the
23 curriculum and teaching techniques of the teacher award recipient.¹
24
- 25 2. There is appropriated from the General Fund the sum of
26 ¹~~\$5,000~~¹ \$10,000¹ to the ¹~~Department of Education~~¹ Amistad
27 Commission¹ to implement the provisions of this act.
28
- 29 3. This act shall take effect in the first full school year
30 following the date of enactment.