

SENATE, No. 2973

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
215th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED SEPTEMBER 12, 2013

Sponsored by:

Senator JEFF VAN DREW

District 1 (Atlantic, Cape May and Cumberland)

SYNOPSIS

Establishes Common Core State Standards Evaluation Task Force; delays use of assessments developed by Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers until task force submits final report.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT establishing a task force to evaluate the implementation of
2 the common core state standards.

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

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7 1. a. There is established the Common Core State Standards
8 Evaluation Task Force. The purpose of the task force shall be to
9 study the implementation of the common core state standards.

10 b. The task force shall consist of the following 19 members:

11 (1) the Commissioner of Education, or the commissioner's
12 designee, who shall serve ex officio;

13 (2) eight members appointed by the Governor, one upon the
14 recommendation of the American Federation of Teachers New
15 Jersey, one upon the recommendation of the New Jersey
16 Association of School Administrators, one upon the
17 recommendation of the New Jersey Education Association, one
18 upon the recommendation of the New Jersey Principals and
19 Supervisors Association, one upon the recommendation of the New
20 Jersey School Boards Association, one representative of a
21 nonpublic school located in New Jersey, and two public members
22 who are the parents or guardians of a student enrolled in a New
23 Jersey public school;

24 (3) two members of the Senate, who shall not be from the same
25 political party, appointed by the President of the Senate;

26 (4) two members of the General Assembly, who shall not be
27 from the same political party, appointed by the Speaker of the
28 General Assembly;

29 (5) one member, appointed by the President of the Senate, who
30 has demonstrated expertise in language arts literacy instruction and
31 curriculum;

32 (6) one member, appointed by the Speaker of the General
33 Assembly, who has demonstrated expertise in language arts literacy
34 instruction and curriculum;

35 (7) one member, appointed by the President of the Senate, who
36 has demonstrated expertise in mathematics instruction and
37 curriculum;

38 (8) one member, appointed by the Speaker of the General
39 Assembly, who has demonstrated expertise in mathematics
40 instruction and curriculum;

41 (9) one member, appointed by the President of the Senate, who
42 is the parent or guardian of a student enrolled in a New Jersey
43 public school; and

44 (10) one member, appointed by the Speaker of the General
45 Assembly, who is the parent or guardian of a student enrolled in a
46 New Jersey public school.

47 c. Appointments to the task force shall be made within 30 days
48 of the effective date of this act. Vacancies in the membership of the

1 task force shall be filled in the same manner as the original
2 appointments were made. Members of the task force shall serve
3 without compensation, but shall be reimbursed for necessary
4 expenditures incurred in the performance of their duties as members
5 of the task force within the limits of funds appropriated or
6 otherwise made available to the task force for its purposes.

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8 2. The task force shall organize as soon as practicable
9 following the appointment of its members, but no later than 60 days
10 after the appointment of the members. The task force shall choose
11 one member of the Senate and one member of the General
12 Assembly to serve as co-chairpersons. The task force shall also
13 appoint a secretary who need not be a member of the task force.

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15 3. The Department of Education shall provide such
16 stenographical, clerical, and other assistance, and such professional
17 staff as the task force requires to carry out its work. The task force
18 shall also be entitled to call to its assistance and avail itself of the
19 services of the employees of any State, county, or municipal
20 department, board, bureau, commission, or agency as it may require
21 and as may be available for its purposes.

22
23 4. a. The task force shall evaluate the implementation of the
24 common core state standards. The evaluation shall include, but
25 need not be limited to, the following:

26 (1) a description of actions taken by the State to date to
27 implement the common core state standards and a timeline of any
28 subsequent actions to be taken;

29 (2) a comparison of the common core state standards for English
30 language arts and mathematics to the core curriculum content
31 standards in language arts literacy and mathematics that existed
32 prior to the adoption of the common core state standards;

33 (3) an estimate of the full cost for school districts to implement
34 the common core state standards, including those costs already
35 incurred by districts and those to be incurred in the future; and

36 (4) an analysis of students' performance on the State
37 assessments prior to the 2012-2013 school year and in the 2012-
38 2013 and subsequent school years. The analysis shall assess
39 changes in the achievement gap between different racial and ethnic
40 groups and different economic groups.

41 b. The task force shall also study and evaluate the issue of
42 student and family personal data mining and a student's right to
43 privacy. The task force shall consider, but not be limited to, data
44 related to learning disabilities, student behavior, political affiliation,
45 religious affiliation, and medical history.

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47 5. The task force shall issue a final report to the Governor, and
48 to the Legislature pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164

1 (C.52:14-19.1), no later than six months after the task force
2 organizes. Prior to issuing its final report, the task force shall hold
3 at least four public hearings, with at least one public hearing to
4 occur in each of the northern, central, and southern regions of the
5 State, to gather information regarding the implementation of the
6 common core state standards, the mining of student and family data,
7 and student privacy rights.

8
9 6. The Department of Education shall not administer any
10 assessment developed by the Partnership for Assessment of
11 Readiness for College and Careers, or any similar assessment, prior
12 to the issuance of the final report by the task force pursuant to
13 section 5 of this act.

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15 7. This act shall take effect immediately.

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18 STATEMENT

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20 In June of 2010, the State Board of Education adopted the
21 common core state standards (CCSS) to replace the core curriculum
22 content standards in language arts literacy and mathematics. This
23 bill establishes the Common Core State Standards Evaluation Task
24 Force to evaluate the implementation of the CCSS. The task force
25 would include 19 members as follows: the Commissioner of
26 Education or a designee; eight members, appointed by the
27 Governor, five upon the recommendations of the American
28 Federation of Teachers New Jersey, the New Jersey Association of
29 School Administrators, the New Jersey Education Association, the
30 New Jersey Principals and Supervisors Association, and the New
31 Jersey School Boards Association, one member who is a
32 representative of a nonpublic school, and two public members who
33 are the parents or guardians of a student enrolled in a New Jersey
34 public school; two members of the Senate, appointed by President
35 of the Senate; two members of the General Assembly, appointed by
36 the Speaker of the General Assembly; two individuals, one each
37 appointed by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the
38 General Assembly, who have expertise in language arts literacy
39 instruction and curriculum; two individuals, one each appointed by
40 the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the General
41 Assembly, who have expertise in mathematics instruction and
42 curriculum; and two public members, one each appointed by the
43 President of the Senate and the Speaker of the General Assembly,
44 who are the parents or guardians of students enrolled in a New
45 Jersey public school.

46 The task force's evaluation of the common core state standards
47 would include: 1) a description of actions taken by the State to date
48 to implement the new standards and a timeline for additional

1 actions to be taken; 2) a comparison of the common core state
2 standards to the academic standards that they replaced; 3) an
3 estimate of the of full cost for school districts to implement the
4 common core state standards, including those already incurred and
5 those to be incurred in the future; and 4) an analysis of student
6 performance on the State assessments before and after the adoption
7 of the common core state standards. The task force is also directed
8 to study and evaluate the issue of student and family personal data
9 mining and a student's right to privacy.

10 The task force is to issue its final report no later six months after
11 it organizes. Prior to issuing its final report, the task force is to
12 conduct at least four public hearings to gather information.

13 The bill stipulates the Department of Education will not
14 administer assessments developed by the Partnership for
15 Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) until
16 after the final report of the task force has been submitted. The
17 department currently intends to administer the PARCC assessments
18 beginning in the 2014-2015 school year.