

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY OF 18A:6-80
(Environmental Quality Education Act)

1965-1970 No similar bills introduced.

L.1971 - chap.279 - A1092

May 14, 1970 - Introduced by Margetts and others.

Apr.29, 1971 - Passed in Assembly, amended.

May 3, 1971 - Passed in Senate.

Aug.4, 1971 - Approved, chap.279.

Amended during passage (copy enclosed of ~~original bill~~ and amendments). *OCR*

No statement

A1092 was listed as "approved" in the following two publications:

974.905 New Jersey Education Association
S35 School Legislation
4/20/71

NJEA Review vol.44:21-22 Feb.1971

A1092 was also briefly discussed in Governor Cahill's Special Message to the Legislature on April 9, 1970, "Toward excellence in education in the seventies". See pages 12-13 of this message attached.

Copy of the following article enclosed:

"Weeding the Garden State" by Edward J. Ambry in N.J.E.A. Review, September, 1971

No hearings or reports were located.

JH/EH
Encl.

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ASSEMBLY, No. 1092

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED MAY 14, 1970

By Assemblywoman MARGETTS, Assemblymen EWING, KEAN,
PFALTZ, McDONOUGH, KIEHN, FAY and FLORIO

Referred to Committee on Education

AN ACT providing for the promotion, establishment, and operation of local school district environmental education programs, the establishment and operation of a network of Regional Environmental Education Facilities and Centers for the purpose of providing environmental education programs for public and ***private**)* *nonprofit* school students and teachers, for the establishment and operation of a network of Environmental Education Curriculum Research and Development Centers, and making an appropriation.

1 BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
2 *of New Jersey:*

1 1. This act shall be known as the "Environmental ***Quality**)*
2 Education Act."

1 2. The Legislature finds and declares:

2 a. The concern for the environment of man has become a
3 dominant social issue of our time;

4 b. Since New Jersey is the most highly urbanized and the most
5 industrialized State in the Nation, it serves as a microcosm of the
6 entire country, and shows abundant evidence of environmental
7 breakdown;

8 c. New Jersey's environmental crisis is not limited to tangible
9 pollution problems;

10 d. The State Departments of Education and Environmental
11 Protection have specific interest in improving education as a force
12 for environmental quality;

13 e. The public and Legislature have expressed their concern by
14 the passage of the Green Acres Bond Act of 1961, the Water Bond
15 Act of 1969 and the establishment of a Department of Environ-
16 mental Protection; and

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

17 f. It is a prime objective to create an environmentally literate
 18 citizenry who understand their interdependence with and responsi-
 19 bility for the total environment, and who possess the knowledge
 20 and concern to solve existing problems and to prevent future ones.

1 3. The Commissioner of Education is hereby authorized and
 2 directed to promote the establishment and operation of local public
 3 and ***[private]*** **nonprofit** elementary and secondary school
 4 environmental education programs, and to assist in the develop-
 5 ment of such programs.

1 4. The Commissioner of Education in consultation with the
 2 Commissioner of Environmental Protection is hereby authorized
 3 to designate and operate and develop Regional Environmental Edu-
 4 cation Centers and facilities for the purposes of assisting in the
 5 development of environmental education programs in each school
 6 district and providing environmental education instruction to public
 7 and ***[private]*** **nonprofit** elementary and secondary students
 8 and teachers.

1 5. Any public or ***[private]*** **nonprofit educational** agency may
 2 apply to the Commissioner of Education for designation as a
 3 Regional Environmental Education Center.

1 6. ***[The]*** **Courses of study and schedules of fees of Regional*
 2 *Environmental Education Centers shall be subject to the approval*
 3 *of the** Commissioner of Education ***[with the approval of]***
 4 **and** the State Board ***[of Education shall by rules and regula-**
 5 *tions prescribe the courses of study, schedule of fees, and use of*
 6 *Regional Environmental Education Centers for public and private*
 7 *schools]*.*

1 7. Instruction at Regional Environmental Education Centers
 2 shall include, but not be limited to the study of man and his environ-
 3 ments, and problems of environmental pollution, erosion and sur-
 4 vival as they relate to the fields of ecology and other sciences, social
 5 sciences, language arts, mathematics, the arts and humanities.

1 8. Any public or ***[private]*** **nonprofit** school in the State may
 2 arrange its schedule in accordance with rules of the Commissioner
 3 of Education so that its elementary and secondary school pupils
 4 may utilize the services and facilities of an environmental educa-
 5 tion center; and any school, except such school as is operated for
 6 profit in whole or in part, may, upon application ***[made to the**

7 commissioner at the time and in the manner specified in the rules
 8 and regulations made by him]*, cause its pupils to utilize the
 9 services and facilities of a Regional Environmental Education
 10 Center.

1 9. Upon proper application submitted to the Commissioner of
 2 Education by the local school district, the commissioner is autho-
 3 rized, subject to available appropriations, to enter into agreements
 4 with, and to make cost sharing grants of money to local school dis-
 5 tricts **New Jersey Public Broadcasting Authority** or Regional
 6 Environmental Education Centers for the purposes of assisting
 7 in the costs of services for local student participation and other
 8 education services provided by the Regional Environmental Educa-
 9 tion Centers **and the New Jersey Public Broadcasting Authority**.

1 10. Upon proper application submitted to the Commissioner of
 2 Education by a local school district, the commissioner is authorized,
 3 subject to available appropriations to enter into agreements with,
 4 and to make grants of money to such local school district for the
 5 purpose of paying half of the cost of constructing and equipping
 6 local environmental education facilities.

1 11. ***[The New Jersey State School of Conservation and the]**
 2 Stepping Stone Environmental Education Center at Branchville,
 3 the Conservation and Environmental ***[Science]** **Studies**
 4 Center at Browns Mills, and the Sandy Hook Environmental
 5 Education Center, by virtue of their long standing and demon-
 6 strated capability aided by nearly \$2,000,000.00 in Federal grants,
 7 are hereby designated as Environmental Education Curriculum
 8 Research and Development Centers for the purpose of providing
 9 to local, public and ***[private]** **nonprofit** school districts services
 10 such as, but not limited to, development and dissemination of
 11 curriculum materials, teacher training, demonstration pilot pro-
 12 grams, guidance in facility development and use, and consultative
 12A services to municipal conservation commissions and other
 13 environmental interest groups. The Environmental Education
 14 Curriculum Research and Development Centers shall concentrate
 15 their research and curriculum development efforts on problems
 16 related to pollution, erosion, land use, ecology, survival and related
 17 natural, physical and social sciences.

1 12. The Commissioner of Education with the approval of the
 2 State Board of Education shall:

3 a. Make rules and regulations for the establishment and operation
 4 of the Environmental Education Curriculum Research and Develop-
 5 ment Centers **for the purpose of providing for local, public and*
 6 *nonprofit school services such as, but not limited to, development*
 7 *and dissemination of curriculum materials, teacher training,*
 8 *demonstration pilot programs, guidance in facility development*
 9 *and use, and consultative services to municipal conservation com-*
 10 *missions and other environmental interest groups. The Environ-*

11 *mental Education Curriculum Research and Development Centers*
12 *shall concentrate their research and curriculum development efforts*
13 *on problems related to pollution, erosion, land use, ecology, survival*
14 *and related natural, physical and social sciences*.*

15 ***[b.** Designate additional Environmental Education Curriculum
16 Research and Development Centers as the need arises; and**]***

17 ***[c.]** **b.** Employ such personnel as may be necessary to carry
18 out the purposes of the act.

1 13. There is hereby appropriated to the Department of Educa-
2 tion the sum of ***[\$500,000.00]*** *\$100,000.00* for the purpose of
3 carrying out the purposes of this act *through June 30, 1972, the*
4 *expenditure of which shall be conditioned upon approval of at least*
5 *an equal amount of Federal funds*.*

1 14. This act shall take effect immediately.