18A:12-1.2 LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

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- LAWS OF: 2011 CHAPTER: 72
- **NJSA:** 18A:12-1.2 (Disqualifies member of board of education or member of charter school board of trustees for conviction of certain crimes and requires member to undergo criminal history background investigation)
- BILL NO: A444 (Substituted for S295)
- **SPONSOR(S)** Green and others
- DATE INTRODUCED: January 12, 2010
- COMMITTEE: ASSEMBLY: Law and Public Safety

SENATE: Education

- AMENDED DURING PASSAGE: Yes
- DATE OF PASSAGE: ASSEMBLY: May 9, 2011
 - **SENATE:** May 23, 2011
- DATE OF APPROVAL: May 26, 2011

FOLLOWING ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

FINAL TEXT OF BILL (Second reprint enacted)

A444	SPONSOR'S STATEMENT: (Begins on page 5 of introduced bill)		Yes
	COMMITTEE STATEMENT:	ASSEMBLY:	Yes
		SENATE:	Yes

(Audio archived recordings of the committee meetings, corresponding to the date of the committee statement, *may possibly* be found at www.njleg.state.nj.us)

	FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT:		Yes
	LEGISLATIVE FISCAL NOTE:		No
S295			
	SPONSOR'S STATEMENT: (Begins on page 5 of introduced bill)		Yes
	COMMITTEE STATEMENT:	ASSEMBLY:	No
		SENATE:	Yes
	FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT:		No
	LEGISLATIVE FISCAL NOTE:		No

(continued)

VETO MESSAGE:	Yes	
GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING:	No	
FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED: To check for circulating copies, contact New Jersey State Government Publications at the State Library (609) 278-2640 ext.103 or <u>mailto:refdesk@njstatelib.org</u>		
REPORTS:	No	
HEARINGS:	No	
NEWSPAPER ARTICLES:	No	

LAW/RWH

P.L.2011, CHAPTER 72, approved May 26, 2011 Assembly, No. 444 (Second Reprint)

AN ACT concerning the qualifications of a member of a board of 1 education ¹or a charter school board of trustees¹, and amending 2 3 and supplementing various parts of the statutory law. 4 5 BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State 6 of New Jersey: 7 8 1. N.J.S.18A:12-1 is amended to read as follows: 9 18A:12-1. Each member of any board of education shall be a 10 citizen and resident of the district, or of such constituent district of 11 a consolidated or regional district as may be required by law, and 12 shall have been such for at least one year immediately preceding his appointment or election, he shall be able to read and write, shall be 13 14 registered to vote in the district, and, notwithstanding the provisions 15 of N.J.S.2C:51-1 or any other law to the contrary, he is not 16 disqualified as a voter pursuant to R.S.19:4-1 and has not been 17 convicted of: 18 any crime of the first or second degree; 19 an offense as set forth in chapter 14 of Title 2C of the New 20 Jersey Statutes, or as set forth in N.J.S.2C:24-4 and 2C:24-7, or as 21 set forth in R.S.9:6-1 et seq., or as set forth in N.J.S.2C:29-2; 22 an offense involving the manufacture, transportation, sale, 23 possession, distribution or habitual use of a "controlled dangerous 24 substance" as defined in the "Comprehensive Drug Reform Act of 1987," N.J.S.2C:35-1 et al. or "drug paraphernalia" as defined 25 26 pursuant to N.J.S.2C:36-1 et seq.; 27 a crime involving the use of force or the threat of force to or 28 upon a person or property including, but not limited to, robbery, 29 aggravated assault, stalking, kidnapping, arson, manslaughter and 30 murder; 31 a crime as set forth in chapter 39 of Title 2C of the New Jersey 32 Statutes, a third degree crime as set forth in chapter 20 of Title 2C 33 of the New Jersey Statutes, or a crime as listed below: 34 Recklessly endangering another person N.J.S.2C:12-2 N.J.S.2C:12-3 35 Terroristic threats 36 N.J.S.2C:13-2 Criminal restraint

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 floor amendments adopted December 20, 2010.

²Assembly amendments adopted in accordance with Governor's recommendations May 5, 2011.

1	Luring, enticing child into motor vehicle,			
2	structure or isolated area	<u>P.L.1993, c.291</u>		
3	Causing or risking widespread injury			
4	<u>or damage</u>	<u>N.J.S.2C:17-2</u>		
5	Criminal mischief	<u>N.J.S.2C:17-3</u>		
6	Burglary	<u>N.J.S.2C:18-2</u>		
7	Usury	N.J.S.2C:21-19		
8	Threats and other improper influence	<u>N.J.S.2C:27-3</u>		
9	Perjury and false swearing	<u>N.J.S.2C:28-3</u>		
10	Resisting arrest	<u>N.J.S.2C:29-2</u>		
11	Escape	<u>N.J.S.2C:29-5</u>		
12	² Bias intimidation	N.J.S.2C:16-1 ² ;		
13	any crime of the fourth degree involving a vict	<u>tim who is a minor;</u>		
14	<u>or</u>			
15	conspiracy to commit or an attempt to co	ommit any of the		
16	aforesaid crimes.			
17	For the purposes of this section, a convid	ction exists if the		
18	individual has been convicted, at any time, und	individual has been convicted, at any time, under the laws of this		
19	State or under any similar statutes of the United	States or any other		
20	• •	state for a substantially equivalent crime or other offense.		
21	(cf: P.L.1987, c.328, s.1)			
22				
23	2. N.J.S.18A:12-2.1 is amended to read as for			
24	18A:12-2.1. Each member of a board of education shall, before			
25	entering upon the duties of his office, take and subscribe:			
26	(1) An oath that he possesses the qualifications of membership			
27	prescribed by law, including a specific declara			
28	disqualified as a voter pursuant to R.S.19:4	-		
29	declaration that he is not disqualified due to conviction of a crime			
30	or offense listed in N.J.S.18A:12-1, and that he will faithfully			
31	discharge the duties of this office, and also			
32	(2) The oath prescribed by R.S.41:1-3 of the Revised Statutes.			
33	In the case of a Type I school district the oath shall be filed with			
34 25	the clerk of the municipality and in all other cases it shall be filed			
35	with the secretary of the board of education of the district.			
36	(cf: P.L.1987, c.328, s.2)			
37	2 Section 5 of DI 1007 - 200 (C 104-12	(2,2) is supported to $(1,2)$		
38	3. Section 5 of P.L.1987, c.328 (C.18A:12-	(2.2) is amended to		
39 40	read as follows:	- f-11fC		
40	-	5. Any member of a board of education who falsely affirms or		
41	declares that he is not disqualified as a voter pursuant to R.S.19:4-1,			
42	or that he is not disqualified from membership on the board due to			
43	conviction of a crime or offense listed in N.J.S.18A:12-1, is, in			
44 45	addition to immediate disqualification for office, guilty of a crime			
45 46	of the fourth degree.			
46	(cf: P.L.2005, c.154, s.1)			

1 4. N.J.S.18A:12-3 is amended to read as follows: 2 18A:12-3. Whenever a member of a local or regional board of 3 education shall cease to be a bona fide resident of the district, or of 4 any constituent district of a consolidated or regional district which 5 he represents, or shall become mayor or a member of the governing body of a municipality, his membership in the board shall 6 7 immediately cease; and, any member who fails to attend three 8 consecutive meetings of the board without good cause may be 9 removed by it. Whenever a member of a county special service school district or a member of a county vocational school district 10 11 shall cease to be a bona fide resident of the district, or shall hold 12 office as a member of the governing body of a county, his 13 membership on the board shall immediately cease. 14 Notwithstanding the provisions of N.J.S.2C:51-1 or any other 15 law to the contrary, whenever a member of a board of education is 16 disqualified as a voter pursuant to R.S.19:4-1, or is convicted of 17 false swearing as provided in section 5 of P.L.1987, c.328 18 (C.18A:12-2.2)] a crime or offense listed in N.J.S.18A:12-1, his 19 membership on the board shall immediately cease. 20 (cf: P.L.1987, c.328, s.3) 21 22 5. (New section) a. Each member of any board of education, 23 within 30 days of election or appointment to that board, shall 24 undergo a criminal history background investigation for the purpose 25 of ensuring that the member is not disqualified from membership due to a conviction of a crime or offense listed in N.J.S.18A:12-1. 26 b. A member of a board of education shall submit to the 27 28 Commissioner of Education his or her name, address and 29 fingerprints taken in accordance with procedures established by the 30 The Commissioner of Education is hereby commissioner. 31 authorized to exchange fingerprint data with and receive criminal 32 history record information from the federal Bureau of Investigation and the Division of State Police for use in making the 33 34 determinations required by this act. A member shall furnish his or 35 her written consent to such a check as a condition of holding the 36 office of school board member. The member shall bear the cost for 37 the criminal history record check, including all costs for 38 administering and processing the check, except that an elected 39 member may use unexpended campaign funds to pay such costs. 40 ¹The board of education may reimburse the member for the cost of 41 the criminal history record check, including all costs for administering and processing the check.¹ 42 43 The Commissioner of Education is authorized to: c.

receive all criminal history data necessary to complete thecriminal history records check as required pursuant to this section;

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receive all data in accordance with this section on charges
 pending against a member of a board of education who has
 previously undergone a criminal history records check; and

4 adjust the fees set by the Department of Education for the 5 criminal history records checks.

d. Upon receipt of the criminal history record information for a 6 7 member of a board of education from the Federal Bureau of 8 Investigation and the Division of State Police, the Commissioner of 9 Education shall notify the member, in writing, of the member's 10 qualification or disqualification from holding the office of member of a board of education. If the member is disqualified, the 11 12 convictions which constitute the basis for the disqualification shall 13 be identified in the written notice to the member. The member shall 14 have 14 days from the date of the written notice of disqualification 15 to challenge the accuracy of the criminal history record information. If no challenge is filed or if the determination of the accuracy of 16 17 the criminal history record information upholds the disqualification, 18 the commissioner shall notify the member's board of education that 19 the member has been disqualified from membership on the board.

e. The commissioner is authorized to share all criminal history record information of a member received from the Federal Bureau of Investigation or the State Bureau of Identification with the appropriate court in order to obtain copies of the judgment of conviction and such other documents as the commissioner deems necessary to confirm the completeness and accuracy of the record.

26 Following qualification for membership on a board of f. 27 education pursuant to this section, the State Bureau of Identification 28 shall immediately forward to the Commissioner of Education any 29 information which the bureau receives on a charge pending against 30 a member. If the charge is for one of the crimes or offenses 31 enumerated in N.J.S.18A:12-1, the commissioner shall notify the 32 member's board of education, and the board shall take appropriate 33 action. If the pending charge results in conviction, the member 34 shall be disqualified for continued membership.

g. The Commissioner of Education shall permanently maintain
the criminal record and application documents on a member of a
board of education. All documents submitted by a candidate and all
criminal history record information shall be maintained by the
commissioner in a confidential manner.

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6. (New section) Each member of a board of education holding
office on the effective date of this act shall comply with the
criminal history background investigation requirements of section 5
of P.L., c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill)
within 30 days of that effective date.

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1 <u>7. (New section) a. A person may not serve as a member of</u> 2 the board of trustees of a charter school if he or she has been convicted of a crime or offense listed in N.J.S.18A:12-1. 3 4 b. Each member of a charter school board of trustees, within 30 5 days of appointment to that board, shall undergo a criminal history 6 background investigation for the purpose of ensuring that the 7 member is not disqualified from membership due to a conviction of 8 a crime or offense listed in N.J.S.18A:12-1. 9 c. A member of a charter school board of trustees shall submit 10 to the Commissioner of Education his or her name, address and 11 fingerprints taken in accordance with procedures established by the commissioner. The Commissioner of Education is hereby 12 13 authorized to exchange fingerprint data with and receive criminal 14 history record information from the federal Bureau of Investigation 15 and the Division of State Police for use in making the 16 determinations required by this act. A member shall furnish his or 17 her written consent to such a check as a condition of holding the 18 office of charter school board of trustee member. The member shall 19 bear the cost for the criminal history record check, including all costs for administering and processing the check. The charter 20 21 school may reimburse the member for the cost of the criminal 22 history record check, including all costs for administering and 23 processing the check. 24 d. The Commissioner of Education is authorized to: 25 receive all criminal history data necessary to complete the 26 criminal history records check as required pursuant to this section; 27 receive all data in accordance with this section on charges 28 pending against a member who has previously undergone a criminal 29 history records check; and adjust the fees set by the Department of Education for the 30 31 criminal history records checks. 32 e. Upon receipt of the criminal history record information for a 33 member of a charter school board of trustees from the Federal 34 Bureau of Investigation and the Division of State Police, the 35 Commissioner of Education shall notify the member, in writing, of 36 the member's qualification or disqualification from holding the 37 office of member of a board. If the member is disqualified, the 38 convictions which constitute the basis for the disqualification shall 39 be identified in the written notice to the member. The member shall 40 have 14 days from the date of the written notice of disqualification 41 to challenge the accuracy of the criminal history record information. 42 If no challenge is filed or if the determination of the accuracy of 43 the criminal history record information upholds the disqualification, 44 the commissioner shall notify the member's board of trustees that 45 the member has been disqualified from membership on the board. 46 f. The commissioner is authorized to share all criminal history 47 record information of a member received from the Federal Bureau

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of Investigation or the State Bureau of Identification with the 1 2 appropriate court in order to obtain copies of the judgment of 3 conviction and such other documents as the commissioner deems 4 necessary to confirm the completeness and accuracy of the record. 5 g. Following qualification for membership on a board of 6 trustees pursuant to this section, the State Bureau of Identification 7 shall immediately forward to the Commissioner of Education any 8 information which the bureau receives on a charge pending against 9 a member. If the charge is for one of the crimes or offenses 10 enumerated in N.J.S.18A:12-1, the commissioner shall notify the 11 member's board of trustees, and the board shall take appropriate 12 action. If the pending charge results in conviction, the member 13 shall be disqualified for continued membership. 14 h. The Commissioner of Education shall permanently maintain 15 the criminal record and application documents on a member of a 16 board of trustees. All documents submitted by a candidate and all 17 criminal history record information shall be maintained by the 18 commissioner in a confidential manner.¹ 19 20 18. (New section) Each member of a board of trustees of a 21 charter school holding office on the effective date of this act shall 22 comply with the criminal history background investigation requirements of section 7 of P.L., c. (C.) (pending before the 23 Legislature as this bill) within 30 days of that effective date.¹ 24 25 26 ²9. Section 1 of P.L.1986, c.116 (C.18A:6-7.1) is amended to 27 read as follows: 28 1. A facility, center, school, or school system under the 29 supervision of the Department of Education and board of education 30 which cares for, or is involved in the education of children under 31 the age of 18 shall not employ for pay or contract for the paid 32 services of any teaching staff member or substitute teacher, teacher 33 aide, child study team member, school physician, school nurse, 34 custodian, school maintenance worker, cafeteria worker, school law 35 enforcement officer, school secretary or clerical worker or any other 36 person serving in a position which involves regular contact with 37 pupils unless the employer has first determined consistent with the requirements and standards of this act, that no criminal history 38 record information exists on file in the Federal Bureau of 39 40 Investigation, Identification Division, or the State Bureau of 41 Identification which would disqualify that individual from being 42 employed or utilized in such capacity or position. An individual 43 employed by a board of education or a school bus contractor 44 holding a contract with a board of education, in the capacity of a 45 school bus driver, shall be required to meet the criminal history 46 record requirements pursuant to section 6 of P.L.1989, c.104 47 (C.18A:39-19.1). A facility, center, school, or school system under

the supervision of the Department of Education and board of 1 2 education which cares for, or is involved in the education of 3 children under the age of 18 may require criminal history record 4 checks for individuals who, on an unpaid voluntary basis, provide 5 services that involve regular contact with pupils. In the case of school districts involved in a sending-receiving relationship, the 6 7 decision to require criminal history record checks for volunteers 8 shall be made jointly by the boards of education of the sending and 9 receiving districts. 10 An individual, except as provided in subsection g. of this section, 11 shall be permanently disqualified from employment or service under this act if the individual's criminal history record check 12 13 reveals a record of conviction for any crime of the first or second 14 degree: or 15 a. An offense as set forth in chapter 14 of Title 2C of the New Jersey Statutes, or as set forth in N.J.S.2C:24-4 and 2C:24-7, or as 16 17 set forth in R.S.9:6-1 et seq., or as set forth in N.J.S.2C:29-2; or 18 An offense involving the manufacture, transportation, sale, b. possession, distribution or habitual use of a "controlled dangerous 19 20 substance" as defined in the "Comprehensive Drug Reform Act of 21 1987," N.J.S.2C:35-1 et al. or "drug paraphernalia" as defined 22 pursuant to N.J.S.2C:36-1 et seq.; or 23 c. (1) A crime involving the use of force or the threat of force to or upon a person or property including, but not limited to, 24 25 aggravated assault, stalking, kidnapping, robbery. arson, 26 manslaughter and murder; or 27 (2) A crime as set forth in chapter 39 of Title 2C of the New 28 Jersey Statutes, a third degree crime as set forth in chapter 20 of 29 Title 2C of the New Jersey Statutes, or a crime as listed below: 30 Recklessly endangering another person N.J.S.2C:12-2 31 Terroristic threats N.J.S.2C:12-3 32 Criminal restraint N.J.S.2C:13-2 33 Luring, enticing child into motor 34 vehicle, structure or isolated area P.L.1993, c.291 (C.2C:13-6) 35 36 Causing or risking widespread injury 37 or damage N.J.S.2C:17-2 Criminal mischief 38 N.J.S.2C:17-3 39 Burglary N.J.S.2C:18-2 40 Usury N.J.S.2C:21-19 41 Threats and other improper influence N.J.S.2C:27-3 Perjury and false swearing 42 N.J.S.2C:28-3 N.J.S.2C:29-2 43 **Resisting arrest** 44 Escape N.J.S.2C:29-5 45 **Bias** intimidation N.J.S.2C:16-1; 46 or

(3) Any crime of the fourth degree involving a victim who is a 1 2 minor; or 3 (4) Conspiracy to commit or an attempt to commit any of the 4 crimes described in this act. 5 d. For the purposes of this section, a conviction exists if the individual has at any time been convicted under the laws of this 6 7 State or under any similar statutes of the United States or any other 8 state for a substantially equivalent crime or other offense. 9 e. Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, an individual shall not be disqualified from employment or service under this act 10 on the basis of any conviction disclosed by a criminal record check 11 12 performed pursuant to this act without an opportunity to challenge 13 the accuracy of the disqualifying criminal history record. 14 When charges are pending for a crime or any other offense f. 15 enumerated in this section, the employing board of education shall be notified that the candidate shall not be eligible for employment 16 17 until the commissioner has made a determination regarding 18 qualification or disqualification upon adjudication of the pending 19 charges. 20 g. This section shall first apply to criminal history record 21 checks conducted on or after the effective date of P.L.1998, c.31 22 (C.18A:6-7.1c et al.); except that in the case of an individual 23 employed by a board of education or a contracted service provider 24 who is required to undergo a check upon employment with another 25 board of education or contracted service provider, the individual 26 shall be disqualified only for the following offenses: 27 (1) any offense enumerated in this section prior to the effective 28 date of P.L.1998, c.31 (C.18A:6-7.1c et al.); and 29 (2) any offense enumerated in this section which had not been 30 enumerated in this section prior to the effective date of P.L.1998, 31 c.31 (C.18A:6-7.1c et al.), if the person was convicted of that offense on or after the effective date of that act.² 32 33 (cf: P.L.2010, c.122, s.3) 34 $[7.]^{2}[9.]^{1}$ <u>10.</u>² This act shall take effect immediately. 35 36 37 38 39 Disqualifies member of board of education or member of charter 40 school board of trustees for conviction of certain crimes and 41 42 requires member to undergo criminal history background 43 investigation.

ASSEMBLY, No. 444 STATE OF NEW JERSEY 214th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2010 SESSION

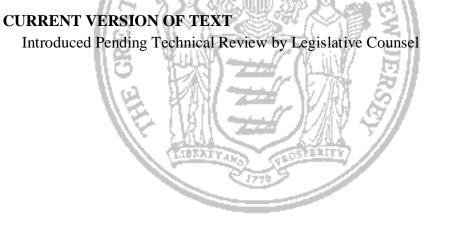
Sponsored by: Assemblyman JERRY GREEN District 22 (Middlesex, Somerset and Union) Assemblyman JON M. BRAMNICK District 21 (Essex, Morris, Somerset and Union) Assemblyman JACK CONNERS District 7 (Burlington and Camden) Assemblyman HERB CONAWAY, JR. District 7 (Burlington and Camden)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblyman Scalera, Assemblywomen Tucker, Evans, Spencer, Assemblyman Chivukula, Assemblywoman Wagner, Assemblyman Diegnan, Assemblywomen Stender, Pou, N.Munoz, Assemblymen Coutinho, Giblin, Wisniewski, Assemblywoman Watson Coleman, Assemblyman Greenwald, Assemblywoman Vandervalk and Assemblyman Cryan

SYNOPSIS

Disqualifies member of board of education for conviction of certain crimes and requires member to undergo criminal history background investigation.



A444 GREEN, BRAMNICK

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AN ACT concerning the qualifications of a member of a board of

education, and amending and supplementing various parts of the

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statutory law.

4 5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State 6 of New Jersey: 7 8 1. N.J.S.18A:12-1 is amended to read as follows: 9 18A:12-1. Each member of any board of education shall be a 10 citizen and resident of the district, or of such constituent district of a consolidated or regional district as may be required by law, and 11 12 shall have been such for at least one year immediately preceding his 13 appointment or election, he shall be able to read and write, shall be 14 registered to vote in the district, and, notwithstanding the provisions 15 of N.J.S.2C:51-1 or any other law to the contrary, he is not 16 disqualified as a voter pursuant to R.S.19:4-1 and has not been 17 convicted of: 18 any crime of the first or second degree; 19 an offense as set forth in chapter 14 of Title 2C of the New 20 Jersey Statutes, or as set forth in N.J.S.2C:24-4 and 2C:24-7, or as 21 set forth in R.S.9:6-1 et seq., or as set forth in N.J.S.2C:29-2; 22 an offense involving the manufacture, transportation, sale, 23 possession, distribution or habitual use of a "controlled dangerous 24 substance" as defined in the "Comprehensive Drug Reform Act of 1987," N.J.S.2C:35-1 et al. or "drug paraphernalia" as defined 25 pursuant to N.J.S.2C:36-1 et seq.; 26 27 a crime involving the use of force or the threat of force to or 28 upon a person or property including, but not limited to, robbery, 29 aggravated assault, stalking, kidnapping, arson, manslaughter and 30 murder; 31 a crime as set forth in chapter 39 of Title 2C of the New Jersey 32 Statutes, a third degree crime as set forth in chapter 20 of Title 2C 33 of the New Jersey Statutes, or a crime as listed below: 34 Recklessly endangering another person N.J.S.2C:12-2 35 Terroristic threats N.J.S.2C:12-3 36 Criminal restraint N.J.S.2C:13-2 Luring, enticing child into motor vehicle, 37 structure or isolated area 38 P.L.1993, c.291 39 Causing or risking widespread injury 40 or damage <u>N.J.S.2C:17-2</u> N.J.S.2C:17-3 41 Criminal mischief 42 <u>Burglary</u> N.J.S.2C:18-2 43 Usury <u>N.J.S.2C:21-19</u> 44 Threats and other improper influence N.J.S.2C:27-3 45 Perjury and false swearing N.J.S.2C:28-3

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.

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1 **Resisting arrest** N.J.S.2C:29-2 2 Escape N.J.S.2C:29-5; 3 4 any crime of the fourth degree involving a victim who is a minor; 5 or 6 conspiracy to commit or an attempt to commit any of the 7 aforesaid crimes. 8 For the purposes of this section, a conviction exists if the 9 individual has been convicted, at any time, under the laws of this 10 State or under any similar statutes of the United States or any other 11 state for a substantially equivalent crime or other offense. 12 (cf: P.L.1987, c.328, s.1) 13 14 2. N.J.S.18A:12-2.1 is amended to read as follows: 15 18A:12-2.1. Each member of a board of education shall, before entering upon the duties of his office, take and subscribe: 16 17 (1) An oath that he possesses the qualifications of membership 18 prescribed by law, including a specific declaration that he is not 19 disqualified as a voter pursuant to R.S.19:4-1 and a specific 20 declaration that he is not disqualified due to conviction of a crime 21 or offense listed in N.J.S.18A:12-1, and that he will faithfully 22 discharge the duties of this office, and also 23 (2) The oath prescribed by R.S.41:1-3 of the Revised Statutes. 24 In the case of a Type I school district the oath shall be filed with 25 the clerk of the municipality and in all other cases it shall be filed 26 with the secretary of the board of education of the district. 27 (cf: P.L.1987, c.328, s.2) 28 29 3. Section 5 of P.L.1987, c.328 (C.18A:12-2.2) is amended to 30 read as follows: 31 5. Any member of a board of education who falsely affirms or 32 declares that he is not disqualified as a voter pursuant to R.S.19:4-1, 33 or that he is not disqualified from membership on the board due to 34 conviction of a crime or offense listed in N.J.S.18A:12-1, is, in 35 addition to immediate disqualification for office, guilty of a crime 36 of the fourth degree. 37 (cf: P.L.2005, c.154, s.1) 38 39 4. N.J.S.18A:12-3 is amended to read as follows: 18A:12-3. Whenever a member of a local or regional board of 40 41 education shall cease to be a bona fide resident of the district, or of 42 any constituent district of a consolidated or regional district which 43 he represents, or shall become mayor or a member of the governing 44 body of a municipality, his membership in the board shall 45 immediately cease; and, any member who fails to attend three 46 consecutive meetings of the board without good cause may be 47 removed by it. Whenever a member of a county special service

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school district or a member of a county vocational school district
 shall cease to be a bona fide resident of the district, or shall hold
 office as a member of the governing body of a county, his
 membership on the board shall immediately cease.

5 Notwithstanding the provisions of N.J.S.2C:51-1 or any other 6 law to the contrary, whenever a member of a board of education is 7 disqualified as a voter pursuant to R.S.19:4-1, or is convicted of 8 [false swearing as provided in section 5 of P.L.1987, c.328 9 (C.18A:12-2.2)] <u>a crime or offense listed in N.J.S.18A:12-1</u>, his 10 membership on the board shall immediately cease.

- 11 (cf: P.L.1987, c.328, s.3)
- 12

13 5. (New section) a. Each member of any board of education,
14 within 30 days of election or appointment to that board, shall
15 undergo a criminal history background investigation for the purpose
16 of ensuring that the member is not disqualified from membership
17 due to a conviction of a crime or offense listed in N.J.S.18A:12-1.

18 b. A member of a board of education shall submit to the Commissioner of Education his or her name, address and 19 20 fingerprints taken in accordance with procedures established by the 21 commissioner. The Commissioner of Education is hereby 22 authorized to exchange fingerprint data with and receive criminal 23 history record information from the federal Bureau of Investigation and the Division of State Police for use in making the 24 25 determinations required by this act. A member shall furnish his or her written consent to such a check as a condition of holding the 26 office of school board member. The member shall bear the cost for 27 28 the criminal history record check, including all costs for 29 administering and processing the check, except that an elected 30 member may use unexpended campaign funds to pay such costs.

31

c. The Commissioner of Education is authorized to:

32 receive all criminal history data necessary to complete the33 criminal history records check as required pursuant to this section;

receive all data in accordance with this section on charges
pending against a member of a board of education who has
previously undergone a criminal history records check; and

adjust the fees set by the Department of Education for thecriminal history records checks.

39 d. Upon receipt of the criminal history record information for a 40 member of a board of education from the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Division of State Police, the Commissioner of 41 42 Education shall notify the member, in writing, of the member's 43 qualification or disqualification from holding the office of member 44 of a board of education. If the member is disqualified, the convictions which constitute the basis for the disqualification shall 45 46 be identified in the written notice to the member. The member shall have 14 days from the date of the written notice of disqualification 47

to challenge the accuracy of the criminal history record information. 1 2 If no challenge is filed or if the determination of the accuracy of 3 the criminal history record information upholds the disqualification, 4 the commissioner shall notify the member's board of education that 5 the member has been disqualified from membership on the board. e. The commissioner is authorized to share all criminal history 6 7 record information of a member received from the Federal Bureau 8 of Investigation or the State Bureau of Identification with the 9 appropriate court in order to obtain copies of the judgment of conviction and such other documents as the commissioner deems 10 necessary to confirm the completeness and accuracy of the record. 11 12 f. Following qualification for membership on a board of 13 education pursuant to this section, the State Bureau of Identification 14 shall immediately forward to the Commissioner of Education any 15 information which the bureau receives on a charge pending against a member. If the charge is for one of the crimes or offenses 16 17 enumerated in N.J.S.18A:12-1, the commissioner shall notify the member's board of education, and the board shall take appropriate 18 19 action. If the pending charge results in conviction, the member 20 shall be disqualified for continued membership. 21 g. The Commissioner of Education shall permanently maintain 22 the criminal record and application documents on a member of a 23 board of education. All documents submitted by a candidate and all 24 criminal history record information shall be maintained by the commissioner in a confidential manner. 25 26 27 6. (New section) Each member of a board of education holding 28 office on the effective date of this act shall comply with the 29 criminal history background investigation requirements of section 5 30 of P.L., c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill) 31 within 30 days of that effective date. 32 33 7. This act shall take effect immediately. 34 35 36 **STATEMENT** 37 38 This bill provides that any person elected or appointed to any 39 board of education would be disqualified from service on the board 40 because of a current or past conviction for any of the crimes that, 41 under existing law, disqualify an individual from holding 42 employment in a public school. It provides that the oath of office 43 taken by a member of a board of education prior to assuming office 44 will contain a specific declaration that the member is not 45 disqualified from holding that office due to conviction of one of 46 those crimes or offenses. A member who falsely swears or affirms

that he is not disqualified due to a conviction would be guilty of a
 crime of the fourth degree.

3 In addition, the bill requires each member of a board of 4 education, within 30 days of election or appointment to that board, 5 to undergo a criminal history background investigation for the 6 purpose of ensuring that the member is not disqualified from membership due to a conviction of a crime or offense. The State 7 8 Bureau of Identification will immediately inform the Commissioner 9 of Education of any new charges filed against any member who has 10 previously undergone a background investigation. The cost of the background investigation will be the responsibility of the school 11 12 board member, but unexpended campaign funds may be used for this purpose. A board member holding office on the bill's effective 13 14 date must undergo a background investigation within 30 days. 15 Under existing law, a candidate for election to a board of 16 education, when filing a nominating petition, must certify that the 17 candidate is legally qualified to hold that office. Making a false 18 statement made in connection with a nominating petition is a crime 19 of the fourth degree.

ASSEMBLY, No. 444

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 10, 2010

The Assembly Law and Public Safety Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No.444.

Assembly Bill No. 444 provides that any person elected or appointed to any board of education would be disqualified from service on the board if that person has been convicted of any of the crimes that, under existing law, disqualify an individual from holding employment in a public school. It provides that the oath of office taken by a member of a board of education prior to assuming office will contain a specific declaration that the member is not disqualified from holding that office due to conviction of one of those crimes or offenses. A member who falsely swears or affirms that he is not disqualified due to a conviction would be guilty of a crime of the fourth degree.

In addition, the bill requires each member of a board of education, within 30 days of election or appointment to that board, to undergo a criminal history background investigation for the purpose of ensuring that the member is not disqualified from membership due to a conviction of a crime or offense. The State Bureau of Identification will immediately inform the Commissioner of Education of any new charges filed against any member who has previously undergone a background investigation. The cost of the background investigation will be the responsibility of the school board member, but unexpended campaign funds may be used for this purpose. A board member holding office on the bill's effective date must undergo a background investigation within 30 days.

Under existing law, a candidate for election to a board of education, when filing a nominating petition, must certify that the candidate is legally qualified to hold that office. Making a false statement made in connection with a nominating petition is a crime of the fourth degree.

This bill was pre-filed for introduction in the 2010-2011 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review, which has been performed.

ASSEMBLY, No. 444

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: OCTOBER 14, 2010

The Senate Education Committee favorably reports Assembly Bill No. 444.

This bill provides that a person would be disqualified from membership on a board of education, if the person has been convicted of certain crimes or offenses. The crimes and offenses listed in this bill are the same as the crimes and offenses enumerated under section 1 of P.L.1986, c.116 (C.18A:6-7.1) which disqualify certain employees of a school district from employment. The bill provides that the oath of office taken by a member of a board of education prior to assuming office must include a specific declaration that the member is not disqualified from holding office due to conviction of one of the disqualifying crimes or offenses. A member who falsely swears or affirms that he is not disqualified due to a conviction would be guilty of a crime of the fourth degree.

In addition, the bill requires each member of a board of education, within 30 days of election or appointment to that board, to undergo a criminal background check for the purpose of ensuring that the member is not disqualified from membership due to a conviction of one of the specified crimes or offenses. The State Bureau of Identification will immediately inform the Commissioner of Education of any new charges filed against any member who has previously undergone a criminal background check. The cost of the criminal background check will be the responsibility of the school board member, but unexpended campaign funds may be used for this purpose in the case of an elected member. A board member holding office on the bill's effective date must undergo a criminal background check within 30 days.

As reported by the committee, this bill is identical to Senate Bill No. 295, which also was reported by the committee on this same date.

ASSEMBLY, No. 444

with Senate Floor Amendments (Proposed by Senator ALLEN)

ADOPTED: DECEMBER 20, 2010

These floor amendments would require a member of a charter school board of trustees to undergo a criminal history record check and would disqualify that individual for the same offenses that would disqualify a member of a board of education under the provisions of the bill. These floor amendments would also permit a board of education or a charter school to reimburse a school board member or a member of the board of trustees, as appropriate, for the costs of the criminal history record check.

SENATE, No. 295 STATE OF NEW JERSEY 214th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2010 SESSION

Sponsored by: Senator DIANE B. ALLEN District 7 (Burlington and Camden) Senator BARBARA BUONO District 18 (Middlesex)

Co-Sponsored by: Senator Oroho

SYNOPSIS

Disqualifies member of board of education for conviction of certain crimes and requires member to undergo criminal history background investigation.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel



S295 ALLEN, BUONO

2

1

AN ACT concerning the qualifications of a member of a board of 2 education, and amending and supplementing various parts of the 3 statutory law. 4 5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State 6 of New Jersey: 7 8 1. N.J.S.18A:12-1 is amended to read as follows: 9 18A:12-1. Each member of any board of education shall be a 10 citizen and resident of the district, or of such constituent district of a consolidated or regional district as may be required by law, and 11 12 shall have been such for at least one year immediately preceding his 13 appointment or election, he shall be able to read and write, shall be 14 registered to vote in the district, and, notwithstanding the provisions 15 of N.J.S.2C:51-1 or any other law to the contrary, he is not 16 disqualified as a voter pursuant to R.S.19:4-1 and has not been 17 convicted of: 18 any crime of the first or second degree; 19 an offense as set forth in chapter 14 of Title 2C of the New 20 Jersey Statutes, or as set forth in N.J.S.2C:24-4 and 2C:24-7, or as 21 set forth in R.S.9:6-1 et seq., or as set forth in N.J.S.2C:29-2; 22 an offense involving the manufacture, transportation, sale, 23 possession, distribution or habitual use of a "controlled dangerous 24 substance" as defined in the "Comprehensive Drug Reform Act of 1987," N.J.S.2C:35-1 et al. or "drug paraphernalia" as defined 25 pursuant to N.J.S.2C:36-1 et seq.; 26 27 a crime involving the use of force or the threat of force to or 28 upon a person or property including, but not limited to, robbery, 29 aggravated assault, stalking, kidnapping, arson, manslaughter and 30 murder; 31 a crime as set forth in chapter 39 of Title 2C of the New Jersey 32 Statutes, a third degree crime as set forth in chapter 20 of Title 2C 33 of the New Jersey Statutes, or a crime as listed below: 34 Recklessly endangering another person N.J.S.2C:12-2 35 Terroristic threats N.J.S.2C:12-3 36 Criminal restraint N.J.S.2C:13-2 Luring, enticing child into motor vehicle, 37 structure or isolated area 38 P.L.1993, c.291 39 Causing or risking widespread injury 40 or damage <u>N.J.S.2C:17-2</u> N.J.S.2C:17-3 41 Criminal mischief 42 <u>Burglary</u> N.J.S.2C:18-2 43 Usury <u>N.J.S.2C:21-19</u> 44 Threats and other improper influence N.J.S.2C:27-3 45 Perjury and false swearing N.J.S.2C:28-3 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.

1 **Resisting arrest** N.J.S.2C:29-2 2 Escape N.J.S.2C:29-5; 3 4 any crime of the fourth degree involving a victim who is a minor; 5 or 6 conspiracy to commit or an attempt to commit any of the 7 aforesaid crimes. 8 For the purposes of this section, a conviction exists if the 9 individual has been convicted, at any time, under the laws of this 10 State or under any similar statutes of the United States or any other 11 state for a substantially equivalent crime or other offense. 12 (cf: P.L.1987, c.328, s.1) 13 14 2. N.J.S.18A:12-2.1 is amended to read as follows: 15 18A:12-2.1. Each member of a board of education shall, before entering upon the duties of his office, take and subscribe: 16 17 (1) An oath that he possesses the qualifications of membership 18 prescribed by law, including a specific declaration that he is not 19 disqualified as a voter pursuant to R.S.19:4-1 and a specific 20 declaration that he is not disqualified due to conviction of a crime 21 or offense listed in N.J.S.18A:12-1, and that he will faithfully 22 discharge the duties of this office, and also 23 (2) The oath prescribed by R.S.41:1-3 of the Revised Statutes. 24 In the case of a Type I school district the oath shall be filed with 25 the clerk of the municipality and in all other cases it shall be filed 26 with the secretary of the board of education of the district. 27 (cf: P.L.1987, c.328, s.2) 28 29 3. Section 5 of P.L.1987, c.328 (C.18A:12-2.2) is amended to 30 read as follows: 31 5. Any member of a board of education who falsely affirms or 32 declares that he is not disqualified as a voter pursuant to R.S.19:4-1, 33 or that he is not disqualified from membership on the board due to 34 conviction of a crime or offense listed in N.J.S.18A:12-1, is, in 35 addition to immediate disqualification for office, guilty of a crime 36 of the fourth degree. 37 (cf: P.L.2005, c.154, s.1) 38 39 4. N.J.S.18A:12-3 is amended to read as follows: 18A:12-3. Whenever a member of a local or regional board of 40 education shall cease to be a bona fide resident of the district, or of 41 42 any constituent district of a consolidated or regional district which 43 he represents, or shall become mayor or a member of the governing 44 body of a municipality, his membership in the board shall 45 immediately cease; and, any member who fails to attend three 46 consecutive meetings of the board without good cause may be 47 removed by it. Whenever a member of a county special service

school district or a member of a county vocational school district
 shall cease to be a bona fide resident of the district, or shall hold
 office as a member of the governing body of a county, his
 membership on the board shall immediately cease.

5 Notwithstanding the provisions of N.J.S.2C:51-1 or any other 6 law to the contrary, whenever a member of a board of education is 7 disqualified as a voter pursuant to R.S.19:4-1, or is convicted of 8 [false swearing as provided in section 5 of P.L.1987, c.328 9 (C.18A:12-2.2)] <u>a crime or offense listed in N.J.S.18A:12-1</u>, his 10 membership on the board shall immediately cease.

- 11 (cf: P.L.1987, c.328, s.3)
- 12

13 5. (New section) a. Each member of any board of education,
14 within 30 days of election or appointment to that board, shall
15 undergo a criminal history background investigation for the purpose
16 of ensuring that the member is not disqualified from membership
17 due to a conviction of a crime or offense listed in N.J.S.18A:12-1.

18 b. A member of a board of education shall submit to the Commissioner of Education his or her name, address and 19 20 fingerprints taken in accordance with procedures established by the 21 commissioner. The Commissioner of Education is hereby 22 authorized to exchange fingerprint data with and receive criminal 23 history record information from the federal Bureau of Investigation and the Division of State Police for use in making the 24 25 determinations required by this act. A member shall furnish his or her written consent to such a check as a condition of holding the 26 office of school board member. The member shall bear the cost for 27 28 the criminal history record check, including all costs for 29 administering and processing the check, except that an elected 30 member may use unexpended campaign funds to pay such costs.

31

c. The Commissioner of Education is authorized to:

receive all criminal history data necessary to complete thecriminal history records check as required pursuant to this section;

receive all data in accordance with this section on charges
pending against a member of a board of education who has
previously undergone a criminal history records check; and

adjust the fees set by the Department of Education for thecriminal history records checks.

39 d. Upon receipt of the criminal history record information for a 40 member of a board of education from the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Division of State Police, the Commissioner of 41 Education shall notify the member, in writing, of the member's 42 43 qualification or disqualification from holding the office of member 44 of a board of education. If the member is disqualified, the convictions which constitute the basis for the disqualification shall 45 46 be identified in the written notice to the member. The member shall have 14 days from the date of the written notice of disqualification 47

to challenge the accuracy of the criminal history record information. 1 2 If no challenge is filed or if the determination of the accuracy of 3 the criminal history record information upholds the disqualification, 4 the commissioner shall notify the member's board of education that 5 the member has been disqualified from membership on the board. e. The commissioner is authorized to share all criminal history 6 7 record information of a member received from the Federal Bureau 8 of Investigation or the State Bureau of Identification with the 9 appropriate court in order to obtain copies of the judgment of conviction and such other documents as the commissioner deems 10 necessary to confirm the completeness and accuracy of the record. 11 12 f. Following qualification for membership on a board of 13 education pursuant to this section, the State Bureau of Identification 14 shall immediately forward to the Commissioner of Education any 15 information which the bureau receives on a charge pending against a member. If the charge is for one of the crimes or offenses 16 17 enumerated in N.J.S.18A:12-1, the commissioner shall notify the 18 member's board of education, and the board shall take appropriate 19 action. If the pending charge results in conviction, the member 20 shall be disqualified for continued membership. 21 g. The Commissioner of Education shall permanently maintain 22 the criminal record and application documents on a member of a 23 board of education. All documents submitted by a candidate and all 24 criminal history record information shall be maintained by the commissioner in a confidential manner. 25 26 27 6. (New section) Each member of a board of education holding 28 office on the effective date of this act shall comply with the 29 criminal history background investigation requirements of section 5 30 of P.L., c. (C.) (now pending before the Legislature as this 31 bill) within 30 days of that effective date. 32 33 7. This act shall take effect immediately. 34 35 36 **STATEMENT** 37 38 This bill provides that any person elected or appointed to any 39 board of education would be disqualified from service on the board 40 because of a current or past conviction for any of the crimes that, under existing law, disqualify an individual from holding 41 42 employment in a public school. It provides that the oath of office 43 taken by a member of a board of education prior to assuming office 44 will contain a specific declaration that the member is not 45 disqualified from holding that office due to conviction of one of 46 those crimes or offenses. A member who falsely swears or affirms

that he is not disqualified due to a conviction would be guilty of a
 crime of the fourth degree.

3 In addition, the bill requires each member of a board of 4 education, within 30 days of election or appointment to that board, 5 to undergo a criminal history background investigation for the 6 purpose of ensuring that the member is not disqualified from membership due to a conviction of a crime or offense. The State 7 8 Bureau of Identification will immediately inform the Commissioner 9 of Education of any new charges filed against any member who has 10 previously undergone a background investigation. The cost of the background investigation will be the responsibility of the school 11 12 board member, but unexpended campaign funds may be used for this purpose. A board member holding office on the bill's effective 13 14 date must undergo a background investigation within 30 days. 15 Under existing law, a candidate for election to a board of 16 education, when filing a nominating petition, must certify that the 17 candidate is legally qualified to hold that office. Making a false 18 statement made in connection with a nominating petition is a crime 19 of the fourth degree.

SENATE, No. 295

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: OCTOBER 14, 2010

The Senate Education Committee favorably reports Senate Bill No. 295.

This bill provides that a person would be disqualified from membership on a board of education, if the person has been convicted of certain crimes or offenses. The crimes and offenses listed in this bill are the same as the crimes and offenses enumerated under section 1 of P.L.1986, c.116 (C.18A:6-7.1) which disqualify certain employees of a school district from employment. The bill provides that the oath of office taken by a member of a board of education prior to assuming office must include a specific declaration that the member is not disqualified from holding office due to conviction of one of the disqualifying crimes or offenses. A member who falsely swears or affirms that he is not disqualified due to a conviction would be guilty of a crime of the fourth degree.

In addition, the bill requires each member of a board of education, within 30 days of election or appointment to that board, to undergo a criminal background check for the purpose of ensuring that the member is not disqualified from membership due to a conviction of one of the specified crimes or offenses. The State Bureau of Identification will immediately inform the Commissioner of Education of any new charges filed against any member who has previously undergone a criminal background check. The cost of the criminal background check will be the responsibility of the school board member, but unexpended campaign funds may be used for this purpose in the case of an elected member. A board member holding office on the bill's effective date must undergo a criminal background check within 30 days.

This bill was pre-filed for introduction in the 2010-2011 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review, which has been performed.

As reported by the committee, this bill is identical to Assembly Bill No. 444, which also was reported by the committee on this same date.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 444 (First Reprint)

To the General Assembly:

Pursuant to Article V, Section I, Paragraph 14 of the New Jersey Constitution, I am returning Assembly Bill No. 444 (First Reprint) with my recommendations for reconsideration.

This bill would require members of boards of education and charter school boards of trustees to undergo criminal history background investigations, and would disqualify any person from serving on these boards if convicted of certain crimes and The intention of the bill is to hold board members offenses. to the same standards as school employees, *i.e.*, the individuals they hire and oversee. Currently, N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.1, which governs criminal record checks for school employees, provides that an individual employed by a board of education will be disqualified from employment or service if the individual's criminal history record check reveals any one of several identified crimes or offenses. These include, for example: any crime of the first or second degree; a crime involving the use of force; certain drug offenses; and various third degree crimes.

While this proposed legislation is similar to <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:6-7.1, there are two notable discrepancies between this bill and the existing statute. First, <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:6-7.1 includes as a disqualifying offense for all school employees the third degree crime of "bias intimidation" (N.J.S.2C:16-1). This crime was added to <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:6-7.1 as a result of the recently enacted amendments to the Anti-bullying law, but was not included as a disqualifying offense in this proposed legislation. Second, the bill includes as a disqualifying conviction "any crime of the fourth degree involving a victim who is a minor." This crime, however, is not listed in $\underline{N.J.S.A.}$ 18A:6-7.1 as a disqualifying offense.

Therefore, I recommend that the bill be amended to correct these discrepancies. In order to ensure that school board members and members of charter school boards of trustees are held to the same standards as school employees, as was clearly the intent of this bill, the list of disqualifying crimes and offenses for both school employees and board members must be identical.

Accordingly, I herewith return Assembly Bill No. 444 (First Reprint) and recommend that it be amended as follows:

Page 3, Section 1, Line 4:	After " <u>N.J.S.2C:29-5</u> " delete " <u>;</u> "
Page 3, Section 1, Line 5:	Insert " <u>Bias</u> intimidation N.J.S.2C:16-1;"
<u>Page 7, Line 15:</u>	Insert "9. Section 1 of P.L.1986, c.116 (C.18A:6-7.1) is amended to read as follows: A facility, center, school, or school system under the supervision of the Department of Education and board of education which cares for, or is involved in the education of children under the age of 18 shall not employ for pay or contract for the paid services of any teaching staff member or substitute teacher, teacher aide, child study team member, school physician, school nurse, custodian, school nurse, custodian, school law enforcement officer, school secretary or clerical worker or any other person serving in a position which involves regular contact with pupils unless the employer has first determined consistent with the requirements and standards of this act, that no criminal history record
	information exists on

file in the Federal

Bureau of Investigation, Identification Division, or the State Bureau of Identification which would disqualify that individual from being employed or utilized in such capacity or position. An individual employed by a board of education or a school bus contractor holding a contract with a board of education, in the capacity of a school bus driver, shall be required to meet the criminal history record requirements pursuant to section 6 of P.L.1989, c.104 (C.18A:39-19.1). c.104 A facility, center, school, or school system under the supervision of the Department of Education and board of education which cares for, or is involved in the education of children under the age of 18 may require criminal history record checks for individuals who, on an unpaid voluntary basis, provide services that involve regular contact with pupils. In the case of school districts involved in a sending-receiving relationship, the decision to require criminal history record checks for volunteers shall be made jointly by the boards of education of the sending and receiving districts.

An individual, except as provided in subsection g. of this section, shall be permanently disqualified from employment or service under this act if the individual's criminal history record check reveals a record of conviction for any crime of the first or second degree; or

a. An offense as set forth in chapter 14 of Title 2C of the New Jersey Statutes, or as set forth in N.J.S.2C:24-4 and 2C:24-7, or as set forth in R.S.9:6-1 et seq., or as

set forth in N.J.S.2C:29-2; or

b. An offense involving the manufacture, transportation, sale, possession, distribution or habitual use of a "controlled dangerous substance" as defined in the "Comprehensive Drug Reform Act of 1987," N.J.S.2C:35-1 et al. or "drug paraphernalia" as defined pursuant to N.J.S.2C:36-1 et seq.; or

c. (1) A crime involving the use of force or the threat of force to or upon a person or property including, but not limited to, robbery, aggravated assault, stalking, kidnapping, arson, manslaughter and murder; or

(2) A crime as set forth in chapter 39 of Title 2C of the New Jersey Statutes, a third degree crime as set forth in chapter 20 of Title 2C of the New Jersey Statutes, or a crime as listed below:

Recklessly endangering another person N.J.S.2C:12-2

Terroristic threats N.J.S.2C:12-3

Criminal restraint N.J.S.2C:13-2

Luring, enticing child into motor vehicle, structure or isolated area P.L.1993, c.291 (C.2C:13-6)

Causing or risking widespread injury or damage N.J.S.2C:17-2

Criminal mischief N.J.S.2C:17-3

Burglary N.J.S.2C:18-2

Usury N.J.S.2C:21-19

Threats and other improper influence N.J.S.2C:27-3

Perjury and false

swearing N.J.S.2C:28-3

Resisting arrest N.J.S.2C:29-2

Escape N.J.S.2C:29-5;

Bias intimidation N.J.S.2C:16-1; [or]

(3) Any crime of the fourth degree involving a victim who is a minor; or

([3]4) Conspiracy to commit or an attempt to commit any of the crimes described in this act.

d. For the purposes of this section, a conviction exists if the individual has at any time been convicted under the laws of this State or under any similar statutes of the United States or any other state for a substantially equivalent crime or other offense.

e. Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, an individual shall not be disqualified from employment or service under this act on the basis of any conviction disclosed by a criminal record check performed pursuant to this act without an opportunity to challenge the accuracy of the disqualifying criminal history record.

f. When charges are pending for a crime or any other offense enumerated in this section, the employing board of education shall be notified that the candidate shall not be eligible for employment until the commissioner has made a determination regarding qualification or disqualification upon adjudication of the pending charges.

g. This section shall first apply to criminal history record checks conducted on or after the effective date of

P.L.1998, c.31 (C.18A:6-7.1c et al.); except that in the case of an individual employed by a board of education or a contracted service provider who is required to undergo a check upon employment with another board of education or contracted service provider, the individual shall be disqualified only for the following offenses: (1) any offense enumerated in this postion prior to the

enumerated in this section prior to the effective date of P.L.1998, c.31 (C.18A:6-7.1c et al.); and

(2) any offense enumerated in this section which had not been enumerated in this section prior to the effective date of P.L.1998, c.31 (C.18A:6-7.1c et al.), if the person was convicted of that offense on or after the effective date of that act.

Page 7, Section 9, Line 16:

Delete "9" and insert "10"

Respectfully,

/s/ Chris Christie

Governor

[seal]

Attest:

/s/ Jeffrey S. Chiesa

Chief Counsel to the Governor