



**SPONSORS STATEMENT:** (Begins on page 3 of original bill) Yes

Bill and Sponsors Statement identical to S391

**COMMITTEE STATEMENT:**  
2001(Education)

**ASSEMBLY:** Yes 6-7-

6-21-2001(Appopr.)

Identical to Assembly Statements to S391

**SENATE:** No

**FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENTS:** No

**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE:** Yes

**VETO MESSAGE:** No

**GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING:** No

**FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:**

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**REPORTS:** No

**HEARINGS:** No

**NEWSPAPER ARTICLES:** Yes

"Governor signs bills to reduce school violence," 1-4-2002 Trenton Times, p.A3

# SENATE, No. 391

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 209th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2000 SESSION

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator RAYMOND J. LESNIAK**

**District 20 (Union)**

**Senator DONALD T. DIFRANCESCO**

**District 22 (Middlesex, Morris, Somerset and Union)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Designates annual "School Violence Awareness Week" and prescribes certain activities.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 AN ACT designating a certain week in October as "School Violence  
2 Awareness Week" and supplementing chapter 36 of Title 18A of  
3 the New Jersey Statutes.

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

7  
8 1. The Legislature finds and declares that:

9 a. Adolescence and early adulthood are characterized by much  
10 higher rates of both perpetration and victimization of violence than  
11 other years;

12 b. Adolescents have also been shown to have higher rates than  
13 younger children and adults for both minor and serious forms of  
14 violence;

15 c. Nearly 16, 000 crimes occur per school day on American school  
16 campuses, which is about one every six seconds;

17 d. One in 10 public schools reported at least one serious crime  
18 during the 1996-97 school year;

19 e. Fear of violence in schools affects attendance of students and  
20 causes attrition of staff; and

21 f. It is in the public interest of this State to designate a week in  
22 October of each year as "School Violence Awareness Week" to  
23 provide students, parents, school district and law enforcement  
24 personnel with an opportunity to discuss methods to keep our schools  
25 safe from violence, to create school safety plans, and to recognize  
26 those students in need of help.

27  
28 2. The week beginning with the third Monday in October of each  
29 year is designated as "School Violence Awareness Week" in the State  
30 of New Jersey. School districts shall observe this week by organizing  
31 activities to prevent school violence including, but not limited to, age-  
32 appropriate opportunities for student discussion on conflict resolution,  
33 issues of student diversity, and tolerance. Law enforcement personnel  
34 shall be invited to join members of the teaching staff in the discussions.  
35 Programs shall also be provided for school board employees that are  
36 designed to help them recognize warning signs of school violence and  
37 to instruct them on recommended conduct during an incident of school  
38 violence. The public hearing on violence and vandalism, required  
39 pursuant to P.L. , c. (C. )(now pending before the Legislature as  
40 Senate Bill No. of 1999), shall be held during this week. The  
41 Department of Education shall provide guidelines and information to  
42 boards of education for use in planning the activities in observance of  
43 the week and such funds as are necessary to pay the costs of the  
44 required activities and programs.

45  
46 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

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This bill designates the week beginning with the third Monday in October of each year as "School Violence Awareness Week" in the State of New Jersey. School districts would observe this week by organizing activities to prevent school violence including, but not limited to, age-appropriate opportunities for student discussion on conflict resolution, issues of student diversity, and tolerance. Law enforcement personnel would be invited to join members of the teaching staff in the discussions. Programs would also be provided for school board employees that are designed to help them recognize warning signs of school violence and to instruct them on recommended conduct during an incident of school violence. The public hearing on violence and vandalism, which is to be required under companion legislation, would be held during this week. The bill directs the Department of Education to provide guidelines and information to boards of education for use in planning the activities in observance of the week.

The bill further requires the Department of Education to provide the necessary funds to pay the costs of the required activities and programs associated with the observance of School Violence Awareness Week.

# SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### **SENATE, No. 391**

with committee amendments

# **STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: MARCH 15, 2001

The Senate Education Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Senate Bill No. 391.

As amended, this bill designates the week beginning with the third Monday in October of each year as "School Violence Awareness Week" in the State of New Jersey. School districts would observe this week by organizing activities to prevent school violence including, but not limited to, age-appropriate opportunities for student discussion on conflict resolution, issues of student diversity, and tolerance. Law enforcement personnel would be invited to join members of the teaching staff in the discussions. Programs would also be provided for school board employees that are designed to help them recognize warning signs of school violence and to instruct them on recommended conduct during an incident of school violence. The public hearing on violence and vandalism, which is to be required under Senate Bill No. 392, would be held during this week. The bill directs the Department of Education to provide guidelines and information to boards of education for use in planning the activities in observance of the week.

The bill further requires the Department of Education to provide the necessary funds to pay the costs of the required activities and programs associated with the observance of School Violence Awareness Week.

Amendments were adopted to update the information in the findings and declaration section of the bill.

This bill was pre-filed for introduction in the 2000 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review, which has been performed.

[First Reprint]

**SENATE, No. 391**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**209th LEGISLATURE**

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2000 SESSION

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator RAYMOND J. LESNIAK**

**District 20 (Union)**

**Senator DONALD T. DIFRANCESCO**

**District 22 (Middlesex, Morris, Somerset and Union)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

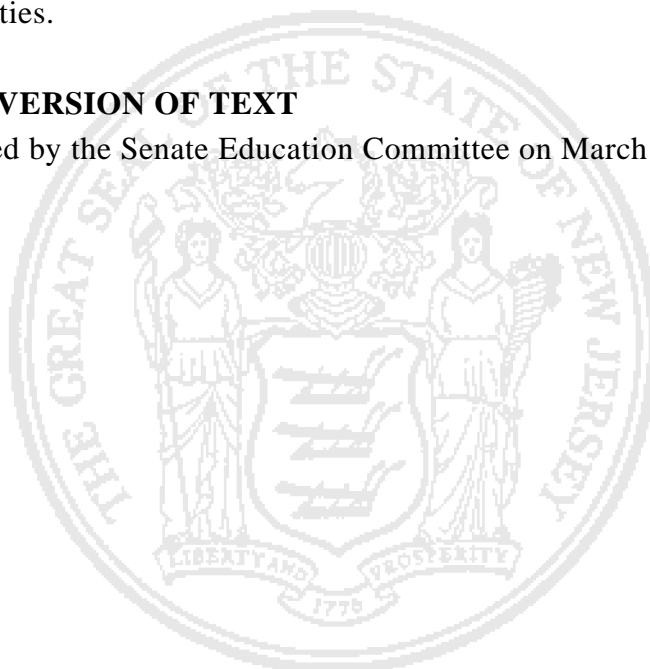
**Senator Allen, Assemblywoman Buono, Assemblymen Geist and Cohen**

**SYNOPSIS**

Designates annual "School Violence Awareness Week" and prescribes certain activities.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As reported by the Senate Education Committee on March 15, 2001, with amendments.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 11/30/2001)**

1 AN ACT designating a certain week in October as "School Violence  
2 Awareness Week" and supplementing chapter 36 of Title 18A of  
3 the New Jersey Statutes.

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

7  
8 1. The Legislature finds and declares that:

9 a. Adolescence and early adulthood are characterized by much  
10 higher rates of both perpetration and victimization of violence than  
11 other years;

12 b. Adolescents have also been shown to have higher rates than  
13 younger children and adults for both minor and serious forms of  
14 violence;

15 c. <sup>1</sup>[ Nearly 16, 000 crimes occur per school day on American  
16 school campuses, which is about one every six seconds] In 1998,  
17 students who were ages 12 through 18 were victims of more than 2.7  
18 million crimes at school<sup>1</sup>;

19 d. <sup>1</sup>[One in 10 public schools reported at least one serious crime  
20 during the 1996-97 school year] There were also 60 school-associated  
21 violent deaths in the United States during the 1997-98 school year,  
22 including 47 homicides<sup>1</sup>;

23 e. Fear of violence in schools affects attendance of students and  
24 causes attrition of staff; and

25 f. It is in the public interest of this State to designate a week in  
26 October of each year as "School Violence Awareness Week" to  
27 provide students, parents, school district and law enforcement  
28 personnel with an opportunity to discuss methods to keep our schools  
29 safe from violence, to create school safety plans, and to recognize  
30 those students in need of help.

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32 2. The week beginning with the third Monday in October of each  
33 year is designated as "School Violence Awareness Week" in the State  
34 of New Jersey. School districts shall observe this week by organizing  
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39 Programs shall also be provided for school board employees that are  
40 designed to help them recognize warning signs of school violence and  
41 to instruct them on recommended conduct during an incident of school

**EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and 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> Senate SED committee amendments adopted March 15, 2001.



**S391 [1R] LESNIAK, DIFRANCESCO**

3

1 violence. The public hearing on violence and vandalism, required  
2 pursuant to P.L. , c. (C. )(now pending before the Legislature as  
3 Senate Bill No. 392 of 2000), shall be held during this week. The  
4 Department of Education shall provide guidelines and information to  
5 boards of education for use in planning the activities in observance of  
6 the week and such funds as are necessary to pay the costs of the  
7 required activities and programs.

8

9 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

# ASSEMBLY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

[First Reprint]

**SENATE No. 391**

# **STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: JUNE 7, 2001

The Assembly Education Committee favorably reports Senate Bill No. 391 (1R).

This bill designates the week beginning with the third Monday in October of each year as "School Violence Awareness Week" in the State of New Jersey. School districts would observe this week by organizing activities to prevent school violence including, but not limited to, age-appropriate opportunities for student discussion on conflict resolution, issues of student diversity, and tolerance. Law enforcement personnel would be invited to join members of the teaching staff in the discussions. Programs would also be provided for school board employees that are designed to help them recognize warning signs of school violence and to instruct them on recommended conduct during an incident of school violence. The public hearing on violence and vandalism, which is to be required under Senate Bill No. 392, would be held during this week. The bill directs the Department of Education to provide guidelines and information to boards of education for use in planning the activities in observance of the week.

The bill further requires the Department of Education to provide the necessary funds to pay the costs of the required activities and programs associated with the observance of School Violence Awareness Week.

As reported by committee, this bill is identical to Assembly Bill No. 3323 with committee amendments.

# ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

[First Reprint]

**SENATE, No. 391**

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 21, 2001

The Assembly Appropriations Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 391 (1R).

Senate Bill No. 391 (1R) designates the week beginning with the third Monday in October of each year as "School Violence Awareness Week" in the State of New Jersey.

School districts will observe this week by organizing activities to prevent school violence including, but not limited to, age-appropriate opportunities for student discussion on conflict resolution, issues of student diversity, and tolerance. Law enforcement personnel will be invited to join members of the teaching staff in the discussions. Programs will be provided for school board employees, designed to help them recognize warning signs of school violence and instruct them on recommended conduct during an incident of school violence. The public hearing on violence and vandalism (required under separate legislation pending as Assembly Bill No. 3322 and Senate Bill No. 392) will be held during this week. The bill directs the Department of Education to provide guidelines and information to boards of education for use in planning the activities in observance of the week.

The bill requires the Department of Education to provide the necessary funds.

As reported, this bill is identical to Assembly Bill No. 3323 (1R), as also reported by the committee.

### FISCAL IMPACT:

The bill requires the Department of Education to provide funds necessary for the activities; no fiscal information is currently available on the expected costs.

# ASSEMBLY, No. 3323

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 209th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 22, 2001

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywoman BARBARA BUONO**

**District 18 (Middlesex)**

**Assemblyman GEORGE F. GEIST**

**District 4 (Camden and Gloucester)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Designates annual "School Violence Awareness Week" and prescribes certain activities.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



1 AN ACT designating a certain week in October as "School Violence  
2 Awareness Week" and supplementing chapter 36 of Title 18A of  
3 the New Jersey Statutes.

4

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

7

8 1. The Legislature finds and declares that:

9 a. Adolescence and early adulthood are characterized by much  
10 higher rates of both perpetration and victimization of violence than  
11 other years;

12 b. Adolescents have also been shown to have higher rates than  
13 younger children and adults for both minor and serious forms of  
14 violence;

15 c. Nearly 16, 000 crimes occur per school day on American school  
16 campuses, which is about one every six seconds;

17 d. One in 10 public schools reported at least one serious crime  
18 during the 1996-97 school year;

19 e. Fear of violence in schools affects attendance of students and  
20 causes attrition of staff; and

21 f. It is in the public interest of this State to designate a week in  
22 October of each year as "School Violence Awareness Week" to  
23 provide students, parents, school district and law enforcement  
24 personnel with an opportunity to discuss methods to keep our schools  
25 safe from violence, to create school safety plans, and to recognize  
26 those students in need of help.

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46 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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# ASSEMBLY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### **ASSEMBLY, No. 3323**

with committee amendments

# **STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: JUNE 7, 2001

The Assembly Education Committee favorably reports Assembly Bill No. 3323 with committee amendments.

As amended, this bill designates the week beginning with the third Monday in October of each year as "School Violence Awareness Week" in the State of New Jersey. School districts would observe this week by organizing activities to prevent school violence including, but not limited to, age-appropriate opportunities for student discussion on conflict resolution, issues of student diversity, and tolerance. Law enforcement personnel would be invited to join members of the teaching staff in the discussions. Programs would also be provided for school board employees that are designed to help them recognize warning signs of school violence and to instruct them on recommended conduct during an incident of school violence. The public hearing on violence and vandalism, which is to be required under Assembly Bill No.3322, would be held during this week. The bill directs the Department of Education to provide guidelines and information to boards of education for use in planning the activities in observance of the week.

The bill further requires the Department of Education to provide the necessary funds to pay the costs of the required activities and programs associated with the observance of School Violence Awareness Week.

Amendments were adopted to update the information in the findings and declaration section of the bill.

As reported by committee, this bill is identical to Senate Bill No. 391 (1R).

[First Reprint]

**ASSEMBLY, No. 3323**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**209th LEGISLATURE**

---

INTRODUCED MARCH 22, 2001

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywoman BARBARA BUONO**

**District 18 (Middlesex)**

**Assemblyman GEORGE F. GEIST**

**District 4 (Camden and Gloucester)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

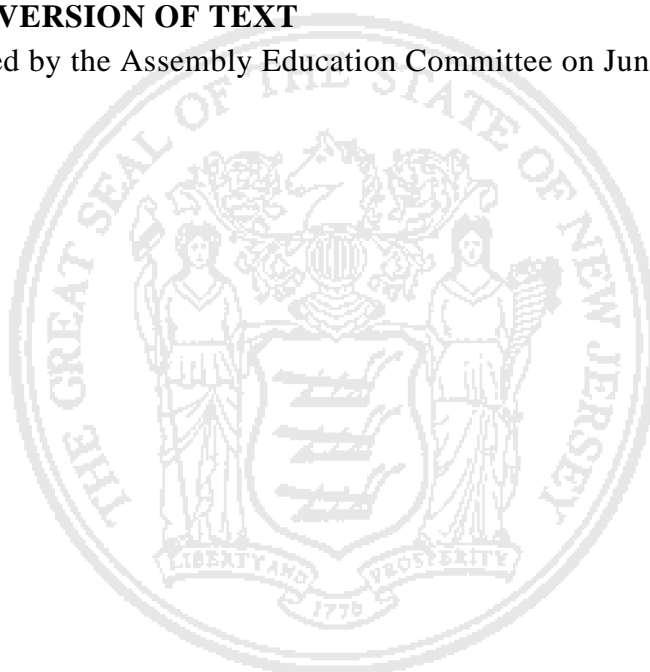
**Assemblyman Cohen**

**SYNOPSIS**

Designates annual "School Violence Awareness Week" and prescribes certain activities.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As reported by the Assembly Education Committee on June 7, 2001, with amendments.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/29/2001)**



1 AN ACT designating a certain week in October as "School Violence  
2 Awareness Week" and supplementing chapter 36 of Title 18A of  
3 the New Jersey Statutes.

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

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8 1. The Legislature finds and declares that:

9 a. Adolescence and early adulthood are characterized by much  
10 higher rates of both perpetration and victimization of violence than  
11 other years;

12 b. Adolescents have also been shown to have higher rates than  
13 younger children and adults for both minor and serious forms of  
14 violence;

15 c. <sup>1</sup>[ Nearly 16, 000 crimes occur per school day on American  
16 school campuses, which is about one every six seconds] In 1998,  
17 students who were ages 12 through 18 were victims of more than 2.7  
18 million crimes at school<sup>1</sup>;

19 d. <sup>1</sup>[One in 10 public schools reported at least one serious crime  
20 during the 1996-97 school year] There were also 60 school-associated  
21 violent deaths in the United States during the 1997-98 school year,  
22 including 47 homicides<sup>1</sup>;

23 e. Fear of violence in schools affects attendance of students and  
24 causes attrition of staff; and

25 f. It is in the public interest of this State to designate a week in  
26 October of each year as "School Violence Awareness Week" to  
27 provide students, parents, school district and law enforcement  
28 personnel with an opportunity to discuss methods to keep our schools  
29 safe from violence, to create school safety plans, and to recognize  
30 those students in need of help.

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32 2. The week beginning with the third Monday in October of each  
33 year is designated as "School Violence Awareness Week" in the State  
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39 Programs shall also be provided for school board employees that are  
40 designed to help them recognize warning signs of school violence and  
41 to instruct them on recommended conduct during an incident of school

**EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and 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 June 7, 2001.

1 violence. The public hearing on violence and vandalism, required  
2 pursuant to P.L. , c. (C. )(now pending before the Legislature as  
3 Assembly Bill No. of 2001), shall be held during this week. The  
4 Department of Education shall provide guidelines and information to  
5 boards of education for use in planning the activities in observance of  
6 the week and such funds as are necessary to pay the costs of the  
7 required activities and programs.

8

9 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

# ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

[First Reprint]

**ASSEMBLY, No. 3323**

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 21, 2001

The Assembly Appropriations Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 3323 (1R).

Assembly Bill No. 3323 (1R) designates the week beginning with the third Monday in October of each year as "School Violence Awareness Week" in the State of New Jersey.

School districts will observe this week by organizing activities to prevent school violence including, but not limited to, age-appropriate opportunities for student discussion on conflict resolution, issues of student diversity, and tolerance. Law enforcement personnel will be invited to join members of the teaching staff in the discussions. Programs will be provided for school board employees, designed to help them recognize warning signs of school violence and instruct them on recommended conduct during an incident of school violence. The public hearing on violence and vandalism (required under separate legislation pending as Assembly Bill No. 3322 and Senate Bill No. 392) will be held during this week. The bill directs the Department of Education to provide guidelines and information to boards of education for use in planning the activities in observance of the week.

The bill requires the Department of Education to provide the necessary funds.

As reported, this bill is identical to Senate Bill No. 391 (1R), as also reported by the committee.

### FISCAL IMPACT:

The bill requires the Department of Education to provide funds necessary for the activities; no fiscal information is currently available on the expected costs.

# LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE

[First Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 3323

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

209th LEGISLATURE

DATED: JANUARY 10, 2002

## SUMMARY

**Synopsis:** Designates annual "School Violence Awareness Week" and prescribes certain activities.

**Type of Impact:** An expenditure increase

**Agencies Affected:** Department of Education

### Office of Legislative Services Estimate

<b>Fiscal Impact</b>	<b><u>Year 1</u></b>	<b><u>Year 2</u></b>	<b><u>Year 3</u></b>
<b>State Cost</b>	Indeterminate--See Comments Below		

- ! Requires each school district in the State to observe "School Violence Awareness Week" on an annual basis in October by organizing certain student and staff activities and programs to prevent school violence.
- ! Requires the Department of Education to provide guidelines and information to boards of education for use in planning the activities in observance of "School Violence Awareness Week," and requires the department to provide such funds as are necessary to pay the costs of the required activities and programs.

## BILL DESCRIPTION

Assembly Bill No. 3323 (1R) of 2001 designates the week beginning with the third Monday in October of each year as "School Violence Awareness Week" in the State of New Jersey. School districts would be required to observe this week by organizing activities to prevent school violence including, but not limited to, age-appropriate opportunities for student discussion on conflict resolution, issues of student diversity, and tolerance. Law enforcement personnel would be invited to join members of the teaching staff in the discussions. Programs would also be provided for school board employees that are designed to help them recognize warning signs of school violence and to instruct them on recommended conduct during an incident of school violence. The public hearing on violence and vandalism, which is to be required under Assembly Bill No. 3322 (1R), would be held during this week. The bill directs the Department of Education to provide guidelines and information to boards of education for

use in planning the activities in observance of the week and to provide the necessary funds to pay the costs of the required activities and programs associated with the observance of School Violence Awareness Week.

## **FISCAL ANALYSIS**

### ***EXECUTIVE BRANCH***

None received.

### ***OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES***

The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) notes that the cost to the State under this bill is indeterminate. The bill does not set a limit on the amount a district may spend on school violence awareness activities; however, it does require the department to establish guidelines for use in planning the activities for this week of observance. OLS notes that there are approximately 566 operating districts in the State and that if each district were to spend \$1,000, the cost to the State would be \$566,000.

Section: *Education*

Analyst: *Theodore C. Settle*  
*Lead Research Analyst*

Approved: *Alan R. Kooney*  
*Legislative Budget and Finance Officer*

This legislative fiscal estimate has been produced by the Office of Legislative Services due to the failure of the Executive Branch to respond to our request for a fiscal note.

This fiscal estimate has been prepared pursuant to P.L.1980, c.67.

P.L. 2001, CHAPTER 298, *approved January 2, 2002*  
Senate, No. 391 (*First Reprint*)

1 AN ACT designating a certain week in October as "School Violence  
2 Awareness Week" and supplementing chapter 36 of Title 18A of  
3 the New Jersey Statutes.

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

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8 1. The Legislature finds and declares that:

9 a. Adolescence and early adulthood are characterized by much  
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16 school campuses, which is about one every six seconds] In 1998,  
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19 d. <sup>1</sup>[One in 10 public schools reported at least one serious crime  
20 during the 1996-97 school year] There were also 60 school-associated  
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38 shall be invited to join members of the teaching staff in the discussions.  
39 Programs shall also be provided for school board employees that are

**EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and 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> Senate SED committee amendments adopted March 15, 2001.

1 designed to help them recognize warning signs of school violence and  
2 to instruct them on recommended conduct during an incident of school  
3 violence. The public hearing on violence and vandalism, required  
4 pursuant to P.L. , c. (C. )(now pending before the Legislature as  
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6 Department of Education shall provide guidelines and information to  
7 boards of education for use in planning the activities in observance of  
8 the week and such funds as are necessary to pay the costs of the  
9 required activities and programs.

10

11 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

12

13

14

15

16 Designates annual "School Violence Awareness Week" and prescribes  
17 certain activities.

## CHAPTER 298

AN ACT designating a certain week in October as "School Violence Awareness Week" and supplementing chapter 36 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

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

1. The Legislature finds and declares that:
  - a. Adolescence and early adulthood are characterized by much higher rates of both perpetration and victimization of violence than other years;
  - b. Adolescents have also been shown to have higher rates than younger children and adults for both minor and serious forms of violence;
  - c. In 1998, students who were ages 12 through 18 were victims of more than 2.7 million crimes at school;
  - d. There were also 60 school-associated violent deaths in the United States during the 1997-98 school year, including 47 homicides;
  - e. Fear of violence in schools affects attendance of students and causes attrition of staff; and
  - f. It is in the public interest of this State to designate a week in October of each year as "School Violence Awareness Week" to provide students, parents, school district and law enforcement personnel with an opportunity to discuss methods to keep our schools safe from violence, to create school safety plans, and to recognize those students in need of help.

C.18:36-5.1 "School Violence Awareness Week"; designated.

2. The week beginning with the third Monday in October of each year is designated as "School Violence Awareness Week" in the State of New Jersey. School districts shall observe this week by organizing activities to prevent school violence including, but not limited to, age-appropriate opportunities for student discussion on conflict resolution, issues of student diversity, and tolerance. Law enforcement personnel shall be invited to join members of the teaching staff in the discussions. Programs shall also be provided for school board employees that are designed to help them recognize warning signs of school violence and to instruct them on recommended conduct during an incident of school violence. The public hearing on violence and vandalism, required pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1982, c.163 (C.18A:17-46) as amended by P.L.2001, c.299, shall be held during this week. The Department of Education shall provide guidelines and information to boards of education for use in planning the activities in observance of the week and such funds as are necessary to pay the costs of the required activities and programs.

3. This act shall take effect immediately.

Approved January 2, 2002.