

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

NJSA: 18A:36-29 to 18A:36-31 (Children--voluntary fingerprinting)

LAWS OF: 1985 CHAPTER: 100

Bill No: A139

Sponsor(s): Perun and others

Date Introduced: Pre-filed

Committee: Assembly: Education

Senate: Education

Amended during passage: Yes Substituted for S1093 (not attached since identical to A319). Amendments denoted by asterisks.

Date of Passage: Assembly: June 30, 1984

Senate: February 28, 1985

Date of Approval: April 4, 1985

Following statements are attached if available:

Sponsor statement: Yes Attached: Senate amendments, adopted 11-29-84 (with statement)

Committee statement: Assembly Yes

Senate Yes

Fiscal Note: No

Veto Message: No

Message on Signing: Yes

Following were printed:

Reports: No

Hearings: No

See newspaper clipping-- attached: "Kidprint program enacted by Kean," 4-5-85 Star Ledger.

100 85  
4-4-85

[OFFICIAL COPY REPRINT]

ASSEMBLY, No. 319

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1984 SESSION

By Assemblywoman PERUN, Assemblymen SCHWARTZ, DORIA,  
BOCCHINI, HOLLENBECK, MAZUR, NAPLES, PATERNITI,  
ZANGARI and BAER

AN ACT establishing a program for the voluntary fingerprinting  
of certain school children.

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

1 1. The sheriff of each county shall work in conjunction with  
2 local law enforcement officials and local boards of education to  
3 provide a fingerprint program for the protection of its students.  
4 The sheriff shall visit each public school and shall, at the request  
5 of a parent or guardian *\*\*or temporary caretaker\*\**, provide each  
6 student in any grades from kindergarten through nine\***[.]**\* with  
7 the opportunity to have the student's fingerprints taken as provided  
8 in this act.

1 2. a. Public school officials shall cooperate with sheriffs and local  
2 law enforcement officials in setting dates for fingerprinting pupils  
3 pursuant to this act and providing school facilities and personnel  
4 to assist in the fingerprinting process.

5 b. No pupil shall be fingerprinted unless the signed authorization  
6 section of the fingerprint card is completed by the student's parent  
7 or guardian *\*\*or temporary caretaker\*\**.

8 c. School officials shall notify the parents or guardians *\*\*or*  
9 *temporary caretakers\*\** of eligible pupils of the date set for the  
10 fingerprinting program at the school at least two weeks prior  
11 thereto. For purposes of this subsection, "eligible pupils" means  
12 pupils who have not been fingerprinted previously pursuant to this  
13 act.

**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 printed in italics *thus* is new matter.

Matter enclosed in asterisks or stars has been adopted as follows:  
\*—Senate committee amendments adopted October 22, 1984.  
\*\*—Senate amendments adopted November 29, 1984.

1 3. a. Fingerprinting pursuant to this act shall be done on a  
2 fingerprint card provided by the sheriff or local law enforcement  
3 officials. Fingerprints shall be recorded on an eight by eight inch  
4 ~~seven mil~~ paper card stock, with the grain running from left to  
5 right. In addition to fingerprints, the card shall contain the follow-  
6 ing information: name, address, race, sex, date of birth, birthplace,  
7 height, weight, color of hair, color of eyes, complexion, scars and  
8 the name of the parent or guardian of the pupil. The fingerprint  
9 card shall contain a place for rolled and plan impressions as  
10 presently utilized on standard fingerprint cards. Sufficient space  
11 shall be provided on the back of the card for palm prints, should  
12 they be necessary. The card shall also provide for the voluntary  
13 written consent of the student's parent or guardian *\*\*or temporary*  
14 *caretaker\*\** and for the signature of the person taking the finger-  
15 prints, his *\*[or her]\** department and the date the fingerprints  
16 were taken. The sheriff's office and local law enforcement officials  
17 shall not retain any fingerprint cards for their own records and  
18 shall not imprint or duplicate the fingerprints of a pupil except as  
18A provided in this act.

19 b. Completed fingerprint cards shall be given to the pupil's  
20 parent or guardian *\*\*or temporary caretaker\*\**.

21 c. Each school district shall provide an orientation program  
22 conducted by certified school staff for the students for whom finger-  
23 printing has been requested to ensure that the students can more  
24 readily understand its purposes.

25 d. Any fingerprint that becomes smudged in the process of im-  
26 printing, or is otherwise indistinct shall immediately be destroyed  
27 and a new fingerprint shall be imprinted.

1 4. This act shall take effect on September 1 next following  
2 enactment.

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4 seven mil paper card stock, with the grain running from left to  
5 right. In addition to fingerprints, the card shall contain the follow-  
6 ing information: name, address, race, sex, date of birth, birthplace,  
7 height, weight, color of hair, color of eyes, complexion, scars and  
8 the name of the parent or guardian of the pupil. The fingerprint  
9 card shall contain a place for rolled and plain impressions as  
10 presently utilized on standard fingerprint cards. Sufficient space  
11 shall be provided on the back of the card for palm prints, should  
12 they be necessary. The card shall also provide for the voluntary  
13 written consent of the student's parent or guardian and for the  
14 signature of the person taking the fingerprints, his or her depart-  
15 ment and the date the fingerprints were taken. The sheriff's  
16 office and local law enforcement officials shall not retain any finger-  
17 print cards for their own records and shall not imprint or duplicate  
18 the fingerprints of a pupil except as provided in this act.

19 b. Completed fingerprint cards shall be given to the pupil's  
20 parent or guardian.

21 c. Each school district shall provide an orientation program  
22 conducted by certified school staff for the students for whom finger-  
23 printing has been requested to ensure that the students can more  
24 readily understand its purposes.

25 d. Any fingerprint that becomes smudged in the process of im-  
26 printing, or is otherwise indistinct shall immediately be destroyed  
27 and a new fingerprint shall be imprinted.

1 4. This act shall take effect on September 1 next following  
2 enactment.

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#### STATEMENT

This bill requires the sheriff of each county to work in conjunc-  
tion with local law enforcement officials and boards of education  
to provide a fingerprint program in the public schools for all  
children in grades kindergarten through nine. Local law enforce-  
ment personnel, rather than the sheriff's office, are required to  
provide the schools with the technical support for the program.

Fingerprinting of students is only permitted upon the request of  
the parent or guardian, and after completing the imprinting of the  
card, the school must give the card to the parent or guardian.  
Further, the sheriff's office and local law enforcement officials are  
prohibited from retaining any cards for their own records.

In addition, each school shall provide an orientation program  
for the students prior to fingerprinting, and if the fingerprint is  
smudged, the school is required to destroy the smudged card im-  
mediately.

A319(1985)

ASSEMBLY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 319

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 21, 1984

This bill requires that the sheriff of each county work in conjunction with local law enforcement officials and boards of education to provide a fingerprint program in the public schools for all children in grades kindergarten through nine. Local law enforcement personnel or the sheriff's office are required to provide the schools with the technical support for the program.

Fingerprinting of students is only permitted upon the written request and signed authorization of the parent or guardian, and after completing the imprinting of the card, the school must give the card to the parent or guardian. Further, the sheriff's office and local law enforcement officials are prohibited from retaining any cards for their own records.

In addition, each school must provide an orientation program for the students prior to fingerprinting. Also, if the fingerprint is smudged, the school is required to destroy the smudged card immediately.

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

**ASSEMBLY, No. 319**

with Senate committee amendments

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

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DATED: OCTOBER 22, 1984

This bill requires that the sheriff of each county work in conjunction with local law enforcement officials and boards of education to provide a fingerprint program in the public schools for all children in grades kindergarten through nine. Local law enforcement personnel or the sheriff's office are required to provide the schools with the technical support for the program.

Fingerprinting of students is only permitted upon the written request and signed authorization of the parent or guardian, and after completing the imprinting of the card, the school must give the card to the parent or guardian. Further, the sheriff's office and local law enforcement officials are prohibited from retaining any cards for their own records.

In addition, each school must provide an orientation program for the students prior to fingerprinting. Also, if the fingerprint is smudged, the school is required to destroy the smudged card immediately.

This bill with minor amendments is identical to Senate Bill No. 1093, which was released by the committee on May 21, 1984.

ADOPTED  
NOV 29 1984

Bn

Senate  
Amendments  
proposed by Senator Bubba

to

Assembly Bill No. 319 (SR)

sponsored by Assemblywoman Perun

Amend:

Page	Sec.	Line
1	1	5
1	2b	7
2	3a	13
1	2	8
2	3b	20

after "guardian" insert "or temporary caretaker"

after "guardian" insert "or temporary caretaker"

after "guardian" insert "or temporary caretaker"

after "guardians" insert "or temporary caretakers"

after "guardian" insert "or temporary caretaker"

STATEMENT

These changes will allow foster parents or other temporary guardians to give authorization and also receive completed fingerprint cards.

*Asperess*

NOV 29 1984



# OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

## NEWS RELEASE

CN-001

Contact: PAUL WOLCOTT  
609-292-8956

TRENTON, N.J. 08625

Release: THURS., APRIL 4, 1985

Governor Thomas H. Kean today signed legislation establishing a voluntary fingerprinting program for children in the kindergarten through ninth grades. Under the terms of the bill, county sheriffs would work with local police and school officials to produce fingerprint cards which would become the exclusive property of the child's parent or guardian.

The bill, A-319, was sponsored by Assemblywoman Angela L. Perun, R-Union.

The intent of the bill is to provide parents who want it, a fingerprint record of their child for use in aiding authorities should the child become missing.

"Every one of us has been horrified by the flood of stories and statistics on missing and abused children," Kean said. "Every one of these stories is a black mark against our way of life and our hopes. Because the children of this nation are this nation's life and hope."

The Governor noted that the bill makes specific provisions for the fingerprint cards to be the exclusive property of parents or guardians. He also stressed that the program is completely voluntary.

"We are very conscious of not infringing on a child's rights or privacy in our efforts to protect New Jersey's children," Kean said. "This law absolutely forbids either the sheriff's office or local law enforcement officials to keep any prints of the children."

- more -



The Governor also said that schools will be asked to provide orientation programs before the program begins so that children will not be intimidated or frightened by having their finger prints taken.

"If we can provide any help to identify the missing --- to end the anguish of the people who love them --- we have a duty to hold out that helping hand," Kean said. "This is most pressingly and undeniably true in the case of children who need help in protecting themselves. If holding out that helping hand means taking the hand of a child, and recording his or her unique print, then that's what we will do."

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