

18A: 54-10.1 et. seq.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

NJSA 18A:54-10.1 et. seq.

LAWS OF 1977

CHAPTER 290 (Contracts with Private Vocational School)

Bill No. S409

Sponsor(s) Musto

Date Introduced, Pre-filed

Committee: Assembly Education

Senate Education

Amended during passage  Yes  No

Date of Passage: Assembly Sept. 26, 1977

Senate April 12, 1976

Date of approval December 6, 1977

Following statements are attached if available:

Sponsor statement  Yes  No

Committee Statement: Assembly  Yes  No

Senate  Yes  No

Fiscal Note  Yes  No

Veto Message  Yes  No

Message on signing  Yes  No

Following were printed:

Reports  Yes  No

Hearings  Yes  No

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SENATE, No. 409

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1976 SESSION

By Senator MUSTO

AN ACT concerning education and supplementing Title 18A of the  
New Jersey Statutes.

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

1 1. For the purpose of providing vocational education courses  
2 on an individual or group basis, boards of education may, accord-  
3 ing to rules prescribed by the commissioner and approved by the  
4 State board, enter into contracts with private vocational schools  
5 when such courses cannot be provided by the county or regional  
6 vocational schools or other school districts or a private vocational  
7 school can provide substantially equivalent training at a lesser  
8 cost. Each private vocational school shall hold a current license or  
9 certificate of approval issued by the State Board of Education or  
10 other appropriate State board or agency and shall be approved  
11 for the purposes of this act by the Commissioner of Education.  
12 Such license or certificate of approval must have been held by the  
13 private vocational school for at least 2 consecutive years immedi-  
14 ately preceding execution of the contract.

1 2. The rules prescribed pursuant to section 1 of this act shall  
2 include, but shall not be limited to, teacher qualifications, maximum  
3 class size, facilities and safety.

1 3. Each private vocational school entering into a contract pur-  
2 suant to section 1 of this act shall make its records available for  
3 inspection by the commissioner or his designated representative.

1 4. Any contract entered into shall be in accordance with applica-  
2 ble Federal and State laws and regulations. The commissioner  
3 shall approve in writing all such contracts prior to their execution.

1 5. This act shall take effect immediately.

## STATEMENT

This bill would permit local boards of education to enter into contracts for courses with private vocational schools when such courses cannot be provided by the public vocational schools or other school districts, or when equivalent training can be provided by a private vocational school at a lesser cost. It would enable local boards to provide a broader range of training by allowing them to make use of the resources available in the private sector. All contracts shall be approved by the commissioner prior to their execution.

S409 (1977)

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STATEMENT

This bill would permit local boards of education to enter into contracts for courses with private vocational schools when such courses cannot be provided by the public vocational schools or other school districts, or when equivalent training can be provided by a private vocational school at a lesser cost. It would enable local boards to provide a broader range of training by allowing them to make use of the resources available in the private sector. All contracts shall be approved by the commissioner prior to their execution.

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

**SENATE, No. 409**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: MARCH 29, 1976

PROVISIONS:

This bill would permit local boards of education to enter into contracts with private vocational schools to provide vocational and technical courses when such courses are not available in the public sector or when a private school can provide substantially the same service at a lesser cost.

BACKGROUND:

Senate Bill No. 409 is an outgrowth of Senate Bill No. 328 of the past session, also sponsored by Senator Musto, which was considered by the Senate Education Committee during the latter part of 1974. At that time, the committee determined that the utilization of private vocational schools would be desirable in that it enables local boards of education to better meet the needs of its pupils by providing a broader range of vocational and technical programs. The Department of Education, while supportive of the general purpose of the bill, pointed out that it lacked the necessary safeguards to ensure educational quality. It was the department's position that the bill should contain standards including, but not limited to, school credentials, teacher qualifications, class size, facilities and State monitoring.

After considering these objectives, the committee drafted a new bill which safeguards the quality of vocational education programs. The committee released the new bill as Senate Bill No. 1460 and it was passed in the Senate during the past session. Since no action was taken on the proposed legislation in the Assembly, the bill has once again been reintroduced by its sponsor and released by the Senate Education Committee for Senate consideration.

SAFEGUARDS:

The following safeguards and standards are provided in the bill:

1. The commissioner shall approve private schools for the purpose of the act and shall approve in writing all contracts prior to their execution.

2. The commissioner, with the approval of the State board, shall prescribe rules under which boards may enter into such contracts and the rules shall include, but not be limited to, teacher qualifications, maximum class size, facilities and safety.

3. Contracts may be entered into for those courses which cannot be provided by the public schools or courses providing training equivalent to those in the public schools but at a lesser cost than if the course were provided in the public sector.

4. The private school shall hold a current license or certificate of approval issued by an appropriate State board or agency and shall have held such for at least two consecutive years immediately preceding execution of the contract.

5. The private school shall make its records available for inspection by the commissioner.

POSITION OF INTERESTED PARTIES :

The New Jersey Advisory Council on Vocational Education, in addition to the Department of Education, approves of the bill.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS :

No additional State support is required for the passage of this bill.

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

DECEMBER 6, 1977

ANNE BURNS

Governor Brendan Byrne has signed into law S-409, sponsored by Senator William Musto (D-Hudson).

The bill permits local boards of education to contract for courses with private vocational schools when these courses are unavailable in public vocational schools or when the courses can be provided at less cost.

Under the legislation the Commissioner of Education will develop rules for these contracts. These will include teacher qualifications, maximum class size, facilities and safety.

The private vocational schools will be required to hold a current license or certificate of approval from the State Board of Education. The license or certificate must have been held for at least two consecutive years prior to entering into a contract.

Each school involved will be subject to the approval of the Commissioner of Education. They will also be required to make their records available for inspection by the Commissioner.

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