

VETO MESSAGE: No

GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING: Yes

FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

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REPORTS: No

HEARINGS: No

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES: Yes

"Christie marks school year's start, signs 6 education bills," Associated Press Wire: New Jersey, September 6, 2016

"No suspension before 3rd grade as Christie signs bills," Press of Atlantic City, September 7, 2016

"Christie blasts teachers union, wants longer school year," Burlington County Times, September 7, 2016

"Caldwell Christie signs education bills," Star-Ledger, September 8, 2016

"Christie kicks off new school year with education reform bills," NJTV, September 6, 2016

"Christie uses back-to-school bill-signing to draw attention to school funding proposal," NorthJersey.com, September 6, 2016

"Christie: Private schools will get state money for security," nj.com, September 7, 2016

RWH/CL

§§1,2 -
C.18A:37-2a &
18A:37-2b
§4 - Note

P.L.2016, CHAPTER 45, *approved September 6, 2016*
Senate, No. 2081

1 **AN ACT** concerning expulsions and suspensions for young students,
2 supplementing chapter 37 of Title 18A of the New Jersey
3 Statutes, and amending P.L.1995, c.426.

4

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

7

8 1. (New section) a. Notwithstanding the provisions of
9 N.J.S.18A:37-2 or any other provision of law to the contrary, a
10 student who is enrolled in grades kindergarten through two in a
11 school district or charter school shall not be expelled from school,
12 except as provided pursuant to the “Zero Tolerance for Guns Act,”
13 P.L.1995, c.127 (C.18A:37-7 et seq.).

14 b. Notwithstanding the provisions of N.J.S.18A:37-2 or any
15 other provision of law to the contrary, a student who is enrolled in
16 grades kindergarten through two in a school district or charter
17 school shall not receive an out-of-school suspension, except when
18 the suspension is based on conduct that is of a violent or sexual
19 nature that endangers others.

20 c. Notwithstanding the provisions of N.J.S.18A:37-2 or any
21 other provision of law to the contrary, a student who is enrolled in
22 preschool in a school district or charter school shall not be
23 suspended, and shall not be expelled from school, except as
24 provided pursuant to the “Zero Tolerance for Guns Act,” P.L.1995,
25 c.127 (C.18A:37-7 et seq.).

26

27 2. (New section) A school district or charter school shall
28 implement an early detection and prevention program to: identify
29 students in preschool through grade two who are experiencing
30 behavioral or disciplinary problems; and provide behavioral
31 supports for these students, which may include, but need not be
32 limited to, remediation of problem behaviors, positive
33 reinforcements, supportive interventions, and referral services. An
34 early detection and prevention program may be incorporated into
35 the intervention and referral services required to be established in
36 each school pursuant to State Board of Education regulations.

37

38 3. Section 9 of P.L.1995, c.426 (C.18A:36A-9) is amended to
39 read as follows:

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.

SENATE, No. 2081

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 217th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED APRIL 25, 2016

Sponsored by:

Senator M. TERESA RUIZ

District 29 (Essex)

Senator SHIRLEY K. TURNER

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE

District 37 (Bergen)

Assemblyman BENJIE E. WIMBERLY

District 35 (Bergen and Passaic)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senator Allen, Assemblywomen McKnight, Jasey, Assemblymen Coughlin and McKeon

SYNOPSIS

Limits expulsions and suspensions for students in preschool through grade 2 with certain exceptions; requires early detection and prevention programs for behavioral issues in preschool through grade 2.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/28/2016)

S2081 RUIZ, TURNER

2

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3 Statutes, and amending P.L.1995, c.426.

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13 P.L.1995, c.127 (C.18A:37-7 et seq.).

14 b. Notwithstanding the provisions of N.J.S.18A:37-2 or any
15 other provision of law to the contrary, a student who is enrolled in
16 grades kindergarten through two in a school district or charter
17 school shall not receive an out-of-school suspension, except when
18 the suspension is based on conduct that is of a violent or sexual
19 nature that endangers others.

20 c. Notwithstanding the provisions of N.J.S.18A:37-2 or any
21 other provision of law to the contrary, a student who is enrolled in
22 preschool in a school district or charter school shall not be
23 suspended, and shall not be expelled from school, except as
24 provided pursuant to the “Zero Tolerance for Guns Act,” P.L.1995,
25 c.127 (C.18A:37-7 et seq.).

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28 implement an early detection and prevention program to: identify
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33 reinforcements, supportive interventions, and referral services. An
34 early detection and prevention program may be incorporated into
35 the intervention and referral services required to be established in
36 each school pursuant to State Board of Education regulations.

37
38 3. Section 9 of P.L.1995, c.426 (C.18A:36A-9) is amended to
39 read as follows:

40 9. A student may withdraw from a charter school at any time.
41 **[A]** Except as otherwise provided in section 1 of P.L. _____,
42 c. (C. _____) (pending before the Legislature as this bill), a student
43 may be expelled from a charter school based on criteria determined
44 by the board of trustees, which are consistent with the provisions of
45 N.J.S.18A:37-2, and approved by the commissioner as part of the

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 school's charter. Any expulsion shall be made upon the
2 recommendation of the charter school principal, in consultation
3 with the student's teachers.
4 (cf: P.L.1995, c.426, s.9)

5
6 4. This act shall take effect in the first full school year
7 following the date of enactment.

8
9

10 STATEMENT

11

12 Current law at N.J.S.18A:37-2 outlines the types of conduct that
13 may constitute good cause for the suspension or expulsion of a
14 student from school. This bill would place limits on expulsions and
15 suspensions for students enrolled in preschool through second grade
16 in a school district or charter school. Under the bill, students in
17 kindergarten through second grade may not be expelled from
18 school, except as provided pursuant to the "Zero Tolerance for
19 Guns Act," P.L.1995, c.127 (C.18A:37-7 et seq.). The bill also
20 prohibits out-of-school suspensions for students in kindergarten
21 through second grade, except when the suspension is based on
22 conduct that is of a violent or sexual nature that endangers others.
23 In addition, the bill prohibits all suspensions for preschool students
24 and provides that preschool students may not be expelled, except as
25 provided pursuant to the "Zero Tolerance for Guns Act."

26 The bill also requires school districts and charter schools to
27 implement an early detection and prevention program to identify
28 students in preschool through grade two who are experiencing
29 behavioral or disciplinary problems, and provide behavioral
30 supports for these students, which may include, but need not be
31 limited to, remediation of problem behaviors, positive
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33 early detection and prevention program may be incorporated into
34 the system of intervention and referral services that is required to be
35 established in each school under current State Board of Education
36 regulations at N.J.A.C.6A:16-8.1 to 8.2.

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 2081

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MAY 23, 2016

The Senate Education Committee favorably reports Senate Bill No. 2081.

Current law at N.J.S.18A:37-2 outlines the types of conduct that may constitute good cause for the suspension or expulsion of a student from school. This bill would place limits on expulsions and suspensions for students enrolled in preschool through second grade in a school district or charter school. Under the bill, students in kindergarten through second grade may not be expelled from school, except as provided pursuant to the “Zero Tolerance for Guns Act,” P.L.1995, c.127 (C.18A:37-7 et seq.). The bill also prohibits out-of-school suspensions for students in kindergarten through second grade, except when the suspension is based on conduct that is of a violent or sexual nature that endangers others. In addition, the bill prohibits all suspensions for preschool students and provides that preschool students may not be expelled, except as provided pursuant to the “Zero Tolerance for Guns Act.”

The bill also requires school districts and charter schools to implement an early detection and prevention program to identify students in preschool through grade two who are experiencing behavioral or disciplinary problems, and provide behavioral supports for these students, which may include, but need not be limited to, remediation of problem behaviors, positive reinforcements, supportive interventions, and referral services. An early detection and prevention program may be incorporated into the system of intervention and referral services that is required to be established in each school under current State Board of Education regulations at N.J.A.C.6A:16-8.1 to 8.2.

ASSEMBLY, No. 3790

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 217th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MAY 23, 2016

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE

District 37 (Bergen)

Assemblyman BENJIE E. WIMBERLY

District 35 (Bergen and Passaic)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblywomen McKnight, Jasey, Assemblymen Coughlin and McKeon

SYNOPSIS

Limits expulsions and suspensions for students in preschool through grade 2 with certain exceptions; requires early detection and prevention programs for behavioral issues in preschool through grade 2.

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As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/28/2016)

A3790 VAINIERI HUTTLE, WIMBERLY

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44 determined by the board of trustees, which are consistent with the
45 provisions of N.J.S.18A:37-2, and approved by the commissioner as

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35 established in each school under current State Board of Education
36 regulations at N.J.A.C.6A:16-8.1 to 8.2.

ASSEMBLY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 3790

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 20, 2016

The Assembly Education Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 3790.

Current law at N.J.S.18A:37-2 outlines the types of conduct that may constitute good cause for the suspension or expulsion of a student from school. This bill would place limits on expulsions and suspensions for students enrolled in preschool through second grade in a school district or charter school. Under the bill, students in kindergarten through second grade may not be expelled from school, except as provided pursuant to the “Zero Tolerance for Guns Act,” P.L.1995, c.127 (C.18A:37-7 et seq.). The bill also prohibits out-of-school suspensions for students in kindergarten through second grade, except when the suspension is based on conduct that is of a violent or sexual nature that endangers others. In addition, the bill prohibits all suspensions for preschool students and provides that preschool students may not be expelled, except as provided pursuant to the “Zero Tolerance for Guns Act.”

The bill also requires school districts and charter schools to implement an early detection and prevention program to identify students in preschool through grade two who are experiencing behavioral or disciplinary problems, and provide behavioral supports for these students, which may include, but need not be limited to, remediation of problem behaviors, positive reinforcements, supportive interventions, and referral services. An early detection and prevention program may be incorporated into the system of intervention and referral services that is required to be established in each school under current State Board of Education regulations at N.J.A.C.6A:16-8.1 to 8.2.

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Governor Christie Signs Education Reform Legislation

Tuesday, September 06, 2016

Tags: [Education](#)
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State of New Jersey OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Governor Takes Action on Seven Bills

Trenton, NJ – As many New Jersey students head back to school today, Governor Christie visited Grover Cleveland Middle School in Caldwell to act upon seven bills focused on improving education in the state.

“Over the last six years, my administration has prided itself on engaging in education reform to make sure our schools are safer, more effective, and facilitating the success of our students,” said Governor Christie. “Providing and ensuring a high quality education for every student in every corner of this state is a firm commitment of mine and it is why I continue to support and bolster education in the Garden State.”

For the last two months, Governor Christie has traveled the state talking about his Fairness Formula, which would change the school funding formula to provide equal funding of \$6,599 per enrolled student, while continuing aid for special needs students and at the same time providing much-needed property tax relief to municipalities.

The Governor’s fiscal year 2017 budget spends more than \$13.3 billion on education, an increase of \$548 million from fiscal 2016, continuing a six-year commitment to providing the highest amount of school aid in New Jersey history.

The state’s high school graduation rate continues to increase. In 2015, the rate was 89.7 percent, up from 88.6 percent in 2014, the fourth straight year that the statewide high school graduation rate increased and the third consecutive year in which it grew by at least a full percentage point.

Other education accomplishments include reforming teacher tenure rules, greatly expanding charter schools, and establishing Renaissance schools under the Urban Hope Act.

The bills the Governor acted on today include measures to enhance school security and early intervention in situations where students exhibit behavioral or learning problems, and that will ensure that substance abuse instruction for students encompasses the latest research and best practices. Governor Christie has also signed two bills focused on higher education, to increase transparency and enable public colleges and universities to save money by engaging in cooperative purchasing agreements. Specifically, the Governor took the following action on the following pending legislation:

BILL SIGNINGS:

S-2081/A-3790 (Ruiz, Turner/Vainieri Huttie, Wimberly) - Limits expulsions and suspensions for students in preschool through grade 2 with certain exceptions; requires early detection and prevention programs for behavioral issues in preschool through grade 2

A-2292/S-372 (Vainieri Huttie, Benson, McKnight, Gusciora, Lampitt, Wimberly/Codey, Allen) - Requires review of Core Curriculum Content Standards to ensure guidance for substance abuse instruction provided to public school students incorporates most recent evidence-based standards and practices

A-2563/S-1753 (Jasey, Singleton, Wimberly, Danielsen/Turner) - Directs institutions of higher education and proprietary degree-granting institutions to provide Higher Education Student Assistance Authority with graduation and transfer rates of State tuition aid grant recipients

A-2566/S-496 (Jasey, Wimberly/Ruiz, Turner) - Establishes Response to Intervention initiative in DOE to support and encourage school districts in implementation of Response to Intervention framework

A-2689/S-754 (Schaer, Prieto, Lagana, Lampitt, Vainleri Huttie, Eustace, S. Kean, Auth, Quijano, Wimberly/Beach, Gordon) - "Secure Schools for All Children Act"; establishes State aid program for security services, equipment, or technology to ensure safe and secure school environment for nonpublic school students

A-3405/S-1822 (Coughlin, Schaer, Jasey, Benson/Sarlo, Cunningham) - Permits certain public institutions of higher education to make purchases and contract for services as participating contracting units in cooperative pricing systems and through use of nationally-recognized and accepted cooperative purchasing agreements

BILL VETOED:

S-86/A-3629 (A.R. Bucco, Sweeney/A.M. Bucco, Rible, Singleton, Caride, Moriarty, Schepisi, Wimberly) – **CONDITIONAL** - Establishes Class Three special law enforcement officers to provide security in public and nonpublic schools and county colleges

###

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609-777-2600



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