



P.L. 2003, CHAPTER 46, *approved April 23, 2003*

Senate, No. 487 (*Third Reprint*)

1 **AN ACT** concerning domestic violence education and supplementing  
2 Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

3

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

6

7 1. A board of education may include instruction on the problems  
8 of domestic violence and child abuse in an appropriate place in the  
9 curriculum of <sup>3</sup>elementary school,<sup>3</sup> middle school and high school  
10 pupils. The instruction shall enable pupils to understand the  
11 psychology and dynamics of family violence, dating violence and child  
12 abuse, <sup>1</sup>the relationship of alcohol and drug use to such violence and  
13 abuse,<sup>1</sup> the relationship of animal cruelty to such violence and abuse,  
14 and to learn methods of non-violent problem-solving. <sup>2</sup>[The  
15 instruction shall be funded by the "Domestic Violence and Child Abuse  
16 Education Fund" established in section 2 of P.L. , c. (C. ) (now  
17 pending before the Legislature as this bill).]<sup>2</sup>

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19 <sup>2</sup>[2. There is hereby created the "Domestic Violence and Child  
20 Abuse Education Fund." The fund shall be a nonlapsing, dedicated  
21 fund within the General Fund and administered by the Division of  
22 Youth and Family Services of the Department of Human Services.  
23 The fund shall be the depository of any moneys made available for its  
24 purposes.]<sup>2</sup>

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26 <sup>2</sup>[3. The Department of Human Services shall promulgate rules  
27 and regulations to effectuate the purposes of this act.]<sup>2</sup>

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29 <sup>2</sup>[4.] 2.<sup>2</sup> This act shall take effect on the 180th day following  
30 enactment.

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35 Provides for instruction for elementary, middle, and high school  
36 students in the dynamics of domestic violence and child abuse.

**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 June 13, 2002.

<sup>2</sup> Assembly AED committee amendments adopted December 9, 2002.

<sup>3</sup> Assembly floor amendments adopted December 12, 2002.

**SENATE, No. 487**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**210th LEGISLATURE**

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PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2002 SESSION

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator JOSEPH F. VITALE**

**District 19 (Middlesex)**

**Senator ROBERT J. MARTIN**

**District 26 (Morris and Passaic)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Provides for instruction for middle school and high school students in the dynamics of domestic violence and child abuse.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/17/2002)**

1 AN ACT concerning domestic violence education and supplementing  
2 Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

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

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7 1. A board of education may include instruction on the problems  
8 of domestic violence and child abuse in an appropriate place in the  
9 curriculum of middle school and high school pupils. The instruction  
10 shall enable pupils to understand the psychology and dynamics of  
11 family violence, dating violence and child abuse, the relationship of  
12 animal cruelty to such violence and abuse, and to learn methods of  
13 non-violent problem-solving. The instruction shall be funded by the  
14 "Domestic Violence and Child Abuse Education Fund" established in  
15 section 2 of P.L. , c. (C. ) (now pending before the Legislature  
16 as this bill).

17

18 2. There is hereby created the "Domestic Violence and Child Abuse  
19 Education Fund." The fund shall be a nonlapsing, dedicated fund  
20 within the General Fund and administered by the Division of Youth  
21 and Family Services of the Department of Human Services. The fund  
22 shall be the depository of any moneys made available for its purposes.

23

24 3. The Department of Human Services shall promulgate rules and  
25 regulations to effectuate the purposes of this act.

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27 4. This act shall take effect on the 180th day following enactment.

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#### STATEMENT

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32 This bill encourages boards of education to provide for the  
33 instruction of middle school and high school students in the issues of  
34 domestic violence and child abuse. The instruction would enable  
35 pupils to understand the psychology and dynamics of these problems,  
36 along with the relationship of animal cruelty to the problems, and to  
37 learn methods of non-violent problem-solving.

38 The bill establishes the "Domestic Violence and Child Abuse  
39 Education Fund" which school districts could use to pay for the  
40 instruction and which would be administered by the Division of Youth  
41 and Family Services.

42 This bill embodies Recommendation #55 of the Report of the  
43 Assembly Task Force on Domestic Violence, issued in July, 1998.

ASSEMBLY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

[First Reprint]

**SENATE, No. 487**

with committee amendments

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: DECEMBER 9, 2002

The Assembly Education Committee favorably reports Senate Bill No. 487 (1R) with committee amendments.

As amended, this bill encourages boards of education to provide for the instruction of middle school and high school students on the issues of domestic violence and child abuse. The instruction would enable pupils to understand the psychology and dynamics of these problems, along with the relationship of alcohol, drug abuse and animal cruelty to the problems, and to learn methods of non-violent problem-solving.

The committee amended the bill to eliminate the "Domestic Violence and Child Abuse Education Fund" which the bill established in the Department of Human Services and the requirement that the department promulgate regulations.

# SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### **SENATE, No. 487**

with committee amendments

# **STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: JUNE 13, 2002

The Senate Education Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Senate Bill No. 487.

As amended, this bill encourages boards of education to provide for the instruction of middle school and high school students on the issues of domestic violence and child abuse. The instruction would enable pupils to understand the psychology and dynamics of these problems, along with the relationship of alcohol, drug abuse and animal cruelty to the problems, and to learn methods of non-violent problem-solving.

The bill establishes the "Domestic Violence and Child Abuse Education Fund" which school districts could use to pay for the instruction and which would be administered by the Division of Youth and Family Services.

This bill embodies Recommendation #55 of the Report of the Assembly Task Force on Domestic Violence, issued in July, 1998.

An amendment was adopted to include in the instruction the relationship of alcohol and drug abuse to the dynamics of family violence and child abuse.

This bill was pre-filed for introduction in the 2002 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review, which has been performed.

STATEMENT TO  
[Second Reprint]  
**SENATE, No. 487**

with Assembly Floor Amendments  
(Proposed By Assemblyman BLEE)

ADOPTED: DECEMBER 12, 2002

This floor amendment incorporates elementary school students into the bill's provisions. Currently, the bill authorizes a board of education to include instruction on the problems of domestic violence and child abuse in an appropriate place in the curriculum of middle school and high school students. This floor amendment will allow school districts to also include such instruction in an appropriate place in the curriculum of elementary school students.