



Publications at the State Library (609) 278-2640 ext. 103 or <mailto:refdesk@njstatelib.org>.

**REPORTS:** No

**HEARINGS:** No

**NEWSPAPER ARTICLES:** Yes

"Schools still to teach about five holidays," Asbury Park Press, February 16, 2007, p.3

"Holidays to remain part of the curriculum," The Record, February 16, 2007, p.A04

"Holiday lessons to stay in schools," Courier News, February 16, 2007, p.3

"Corzine signs revised bill keeping veterans holiday in schools," The Times, February 16, 2007, p.A12

"Corzine signs bill preserving lessons about holidays," The Philadelphia Inquirer, February 16, 2007, p.B06

"Corzine keep patriotic holidays in the public school classrooms," The Star-Ledger, February 16, 2007, p.27

"Law mandates teaching patriotic holidays," Burlington County Times, February 16, 2007, p.B1

"Patriotic holidays stay intact," The Trentonian, February 16, 2007, p.5

RWH 4/29/08

P.L. 2007, CHAPTER 42, *approved February 15, 2007*  
Assembly, No. 17 (*First Reprint*)

1 **AN ACT** concerning certain mandates imposed on public school  
2 districts and amending, supplementing and repealing various  
3 sections of 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. Section 1 of P.L.1982, c.163 (C.18A:17-46) is amended to  
9 read as follows:

10 1. Any school employee observing or having direct knowledge  
11 from a participant or victim of an act of violence shall, in  
12 accordance with standards established by the commissioner, file a  
13 report describing the incident to the school principal in a manner  
14 prescribed by the commissioner, and copy of same shall be  
15 forwarded to the district superintendent.

16 The principal shall notify the district superintendent of schools  
17 of the action taken regarding the incident. Annually, at a public  
18 hearing **[in October]**, the superintendent of schools shall report to  
19 the board of education all acts of violence and vandalism which  
20 occurred during the previous school year. **[The proceedings of the**  
21 **public hearing shall be transcribed and kept on file by the board of**  
22 **education, which shall make the transcript available to the public.]**  
23 Verification of the annual report on violence and vandalism shall be  
24 part of the State's monitoring of the school district, and the State  
25 Board of Education shall adopt regulations that impose a penalty on  
26 a school employee who knowingly falsifies the report. A board of  
27 education shall provide ongoing staff training, in cooperation with  
28 the Department of Education, in fulfilling the reporting  
29 requirements pursuant to this section. The majority representative  
30 of the school employees shall have access monthly to the number  
31 and disposition of all reported acts of school violence and  
32 vandalism.

33 **[The board of education shall file the transcript of the public**  
34 **hearing with the Division of Student Services in the Department of**  
35 **Education by November 1. The division shall review the transcript**  
36 **to ensure compliance with this section of law. The costs of staff**  
37 **training and transcribing the public hearing and printing the**  
38 **transcript shall be paid by the Department of Education.]**

39 (cf: P.L.2001, c.299)

**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.**

**Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:**

**<sup>1</sup>Assembly amendments adopted in accordance with Governor's recommendations January 29, 2007.**

1       2. N.J.S.18A:18A-5 is amended to read as follows:

2       18A:18A-5. Exceptions to requirement for advertising. Any  
3 contract, the amount of which exceeds the bid threshold, shall be  
4 negotiated and awarded by the board of education by resolution at a  
5 public meeting without public advertising for bids and bidding  
6 therefor if

7       a. The subject matter thereof consists of:

8       (1) Professional services. The board of education shall in each  
9 instance state supporting reasons for its action in the resolution  
10 awarding each contract and shall forthwith cause to be printed once,  
11 in an official newspaper, a brief notice stating the nature, duration,  
12 service and amount of the contract, and that the resolution and  
13 contract are on file and available for public inspection in the office  
14 of the board of education;

15       (2) Extraordinary unspecifiable services which cannot reasonably  
16 be described by written specifications. The application of this  
17 exception as to extraordinary unspecifiable services shall be  
18 construed narrowly in favor of open competitive bidding where  
19 possible and the Director of the Division of Local Government  
20 Services in the Department of Community Affairs is authorized to  
21 establish rules and regulations after consultation with the  
22 Commissioner of Education limiting its use in accordance with the  
23 intention herein expressed; and the board of education shall in each  
24 instance state supporting reasons for its action in the resolution  
25 awarding the contract for extraordinary unspecifiable services and  
26 shall forthwith cause to be printed, in the manner set forth in  
27 paragraph (1) of this subsection, a brief notice of the award of such  
28 contract;

29       (3) The doing of any work by employees of the board of  
30 education;

31       (4) The printing of all legal notices; and legal briefs, records and  
32 appendices to be used in any legal proceeding in which the board of  
33 education may be a party;

34       (5) Library and educational goods and services;

35       (6) Food supplies, including food supplies for home economics  
36 classes, when purchased pursuant to rules and regulations of the  
37 State board and in accordance with the provisions of  
38 N.J.S.18A:18A-6;

39       (7) The supplying of any product or the rendering of any service  
40 by a public utility, which is subject to the jurisdiction of the Board  
41 of Public Utilities, in accordance with the tariffs and schedules of  
42 charges made, charged and exacted, filed with said board;

43       (8) The printing of bonds and documents necessary to the  
44 issuance and sale thereof by a board of education;

45       (9) Equipment repair service if in the nature of an extraordinary  
46 unspecifiable service and necessary parts furnished in connection  
47 with such services, which exception shall be in accordance with the  
48 requirements for extraordinary unspecifiable services;

- 1 (10) Insurance, including the purchase of insurance coverage and  
2 consultant services, which exception shall be in accordance with the  
3 requirements for extraordinary unspecifiable services;
- 4 (11) Publishing of legal notices in newspapers as required by  
5 law;
- 6 (12) The acquisition of artifacts or other items of unique  
7 intrinsic, artistic or historic character;
- 8 (13) Those goods and services necessary or required to prepare  
9 and conduct an election;
- 10 (14) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1999,c.440.)
- 11 (15) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1999, c.270).
- 12 (16) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1999,c.440.)
- 13 (17) The doing of any work by persons with disabilities  
14 employed by a sheltered workshop;
- 15 (18) Expenses for travel and conferences;
- 16 (19) The provision or performance of goods or services for the  
17 support or maintenance of proprietary computer hardware and  
18 software, except that this provision shall not be utilized to acquire  
19 or upgrade non-proprietary hardware or acquire or update non-  
20 proprietary software;
- 21 (20) Purchases of goods and services at rates set by the Universal  
22 Service Fund administered by the Federal Communications  
23 Commission;
- 24 (21) Goods and services paid with funds that: are raised by or  
25 collected from students to support the purchase of student oriented  
26 items or materials, such as yearbooks, class rings, and a class gift;  
27 and are deposited in school or student activity accounts; and require  
28 no budget appropriation from the board of education;
- 29 (22) Food services provided by food service management  
30 companies pursuant to procedures established by the New Jersey  
31 Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Child Nutrition Programs;
- 32 (23) Vending machines providing food or drink.
- 33 b. It is to be made or entered into with the United States of  
34 America, the State of New Jersey, county or municipality or any  
35 board, body, officer, agency, authority or board of education or any  
36 other state or subdivision thereof.
- 37 c. Bids have been advertised pursuant to N.J.S.18A:18A-4 on  
38 two occasions and (1) no bids have been received on both occasions  
39 in response to the advertisement, or (2) the board of education has  
40 rejected such bids on two occasions because it has determined that  
41 they are not reasonable as to price, on the basis of cost estimates  
42 prepared for or by the board of education prior to the advertising  
43 therefor, or have not been independently arrived at in open  
44 competition, or (3) on one occasion no bids were received pursuant  
45 to (1) and on one occasion all bids were rejected pursuant to (2), in  
46 whatever sequence; any such contract may then be negotiated and  
47 may be awarded upon adoption of a resolution by a two-thirds  
48 affirmative vote of the authorized membership of the board of

1 education authorizing such a contract; provided, however, that:

2 (a) A reasonable effort is first made by the board of education to  
3 determine that the same or equivalent goods or services, at a cost  
4 which is lower than the negotiated price, are not available from an  
5 agency or authority of the United States, the State of New Jersey or  
6 of the county in which the board of education is located, or any  
7 municipality in close proximity to the board of education;

8 (b) The terms, conditions, restrictions and specifications set forth  
9 in the negotiated contract are not substantially different from those  
10 which were the subject of competitive bidding pursuant to  
11 N.J.S.18A:18A-4; and

12 (c) Any minor amendment or modification of any of the terms,  
13 conditions, restrictions and specifications which were the subject of  
14 competitive bidding pursuant to N.J.S.18A:18A-4 shall be stated in  
15 the resolution awarding the contract; provided further, however,  
16 that if on the second occasion the bids received are rejected as  
17 unreasonable as to price, the board of education shall notify each  
18 responsible bidder submitting bids on the second occasion of its  
19 intention to negotiate, and afford each bidder a reasonable  
20 opportunity to negotiate, but the board of education shall not award  
21 such contract unless the negotiated price is lower than the lowest  
22 rejected bid price submitted on the second occasion by a  
23 responsible bidder, is the lowest negotiated price offered by any  
24 responsible vendor, and is a reasonable price for such goods or  
25 services.

26 d. Whenever a board of education shall determine that a bid was  
27 not arrived at independently in open competition pursuant to  
28 subsection c.(2) of N.J.S.18A:18A-5, it shall thereupon notify the  
29 county prosecutor of the county in which the board of education is  
30 located and the Attorney General of the facts upon which its  
31 determination is based, and when appropriate, it may institute  
32 appropriate proceedings in any State or federal court of competent  
33 jurisdiction for a violation of any State or federal antitrust law or  
34 laws relating to the unlawful restraint of trade.

35 e. The board of education has solicited and received at least  
36 three quotations on materials, supplies or equipment for which a  
37 State contract has been issued pursuant to N.J.S.18A:18A-10, and  
38 the lowest responsible quotation is at least 10% less than the price  
39 the board would be charged for the identical materials, supplies or  
40 equipment, in the same quantities, under the State contract. Any  
41 such contract or agreement entered into pursuant to subsection d. or  
42 subsection e. may be made, negotiated or awarded only upon  
43 adoption of a resolution by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the  
44 full membership of the board of education at a meeting thereof  
45 authorizing such a contract or agreement. [A copy of the purchase  
46 order relating to any such contract, the requisition for purchase  
47 order, if applicable, and documentation identifying the price of the  
48 materials, supplies or equipment under the State contract and the

1 State contract number shall be filed with the Director of the  
2 Division of Local Government Services in the Department of  
3 Community Affairs within five working days of the award of any  
4 such contract by the board of education. The director shall notify  
5 the board of education of receipt of the material and shall make the  
6 material available to the State Treasurer. The purchase order  
7 relating to any such contract shall include a notation that the  
8 material, supplies, or equipment was purchased at least 10% below  
9 the State contract price. The board of education shall make  
10 available to the **[director]** Director of the Division of Local  
11 Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs,  
12 upon request, any **[other]** documents relating to the solicitation and  
13 award of the contract, including, but not limited to, quotations,  
14 requests for quotations, and resolutions.  
15 (cf: P.L.1999, c.440, s.53)

16

17 3. N.J.S.18A:19-3 is amended to read as follows:

18 18A:19-3. All claims and demands, **[exceeding \$150.00 in**  
19 **amount]** that equal or exceed 15% of the bid threshold amount  
20 established pursuant to N.J.S.18A:18A-3, except for payrolls and  
21 debt service, shall be verified by affidavit, or by a signed  
22 declaration in writing, contained therein or annexed thereto, to the  
23 effect that the same are correct in all particulars, that the articles  
24 have been furnished or the services rendered as stated therein and  
25 that no bonus has been given or received on account thereof.  
26 (cf: P.L.1991, c.37, s.1)

27

28 4. Section 2 of P.L.2001, c.298 (C.18A:36-5.1) is amended to  
29 read as follows:

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

1 required activities and programs.

2 (cf: P.L.2001, c.298, s.2)

3

4 5. (New section) A school district may conduct a course of  
5 exercises or instruction in accordance with the core curriculum  
6 content standards to observe holidays, including, but not limited to,  
7 Lincoln's Birthday, <sup>1</sup>【Washington's Birthday, Memorial Day,  
8 Columbus Day, Veterans Day,】<sup>1</sup> Thanksgiving Day, <sup>1</sup>and<sup>1</sup> Arbor  
9 Day <sup>1</sup>【, and Commodore Barry Day】<sup>1</sup>.

10

11 6. The following sections are repealed:

12 N.J.S.18A:36-8; <sup>1</sup>and<sup>1</sup>

13 N.J.S.18A:36-9 <sup>1</sup>【;

14 N.J.S.18A:36-11;

15 N.J.S.18A:36-12; and

16 N.J.S.18A:36-13】<sup>1</sup>.

17

18 <sup>1</sup>7. N.J.S.18A:36-13 is amended to read as follows:

19 18A:36-13. Appropriate exercises for the development of a  
20 higher spirit of patriotism shall be held in all public schools on the  
21 last school day preceding <sup>1</sup>【Lincoln's Birthday,】 Washington's  
22 Birthday (also celebrated as President's Day), Decoration or  
23 Memorial Day, Columbus Day, and Veterans Day <sup>1</sup>【, and  
24 Thanksgiving Day, and on such other patriotic holidays as shall be  
25 established by law】<sup>1</sup>.

26 (cf: N.J.S.18A:36-13)

27

28 <sup>1</sup>【7.】 8.<sup>1</sup> This act shall take effect on July 1 next following the  
29 date of enactment.

30

31

32

33

34 \_\_\_\_\_  
Eliminates various mandates imposed on public school districts.



**ASSEMBLY, No. 17**

---

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**212th LEGISLATURE**

---

INTRODUCED DECEMBER 11, 2006

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywoman BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN**

**District 15 (Mercer)**

**Assemblyman HERB CONAWAY, JR.**

**District 7 (Burlington and Camden)**

**Assemblyman BRIAN P. STACK**

**District 33 (Hudson)**

**Assemblyman DAVID R. MAYER**

**District 4 (Camden and Gloucester)**

**Assemblywoman PAMELA R. LAMPITT**

**District 6 (Camden)**

**Assemblyman LOUIS D. GREENWALD**

**District 6 (Camden)**

**Assemblywoman NILSA CRUZ-PEREZ**

**District 5 (Camden and Gloucester)**

**Assemblyman JOHN J. BURZICHELLI**

**District 3 (Salem, Cumberland and Gloucester)**

**Assemblyman JOSEPH VAS**

**District 19 (Middlesex)**

**Assemblywoman LINDA R. GREENSTEIN**

**District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Assemblymen Panter, Chivukula and Senator Adler**

**SYNOPSIS**

Eliminates various mandates imposed on public school districts.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

Introduced.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/15/2006)

A17 WATSON COLEMAN, CONAWAY

2

1 AN ACT concerning certain mandates imposed on public school  
2 districts and amending, supplementing and repealing various  
3 sections of 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. Section 1 of P.L.1982, c.163 (C.18A:17-46) is amended to  
9 read as follows:

10 1. Any school employee observing or having direct knowledge  
11 from a participant or victim of an act of violence shall, in  
12 accordance with standards established by the commissioner, file a  
13 report describing the incident to the school principal in a manner  
14 prescribed by the commissioner, and copy of same shall be  
15 forwarded to the district superintendent.

16 The principal shall notify the district superintendent of schools  
17 of the action taken regarding the incident. Annually, at a public  
18 hearing **[in October]**, the superintendent of schools shall report to  
19 the board of education all acts of violence and vandalism which  
20 occurred during the previous school year. **[The proceedings of the**  
21 **public hearing shall be transcribed and kept on file by the board of**  
22 **education, which shall make the transcript available to the public.]**  
23 Verification of the annual report on violence and vandalism shall be  
24 part of the State's monitoring of the school district, and the State  
25 Board of Education shall adopt regulations that impose a penalty on  
26 a school employee who knowingly falsifies the report. A board of  
27 education shall provide ongoing staff training, in cooperation with  
28 the Department of Education, in fulfilling the reporting  
29 requirements pursuant to this section. The majority representative  
30 of the school employees shall have access monthly to the number  
31 and disposition of all reported acts of school violence and  
32 vandalism.

33 **[The board of education shall file the transcript of the public**  
34 **hearing with the Division of Student Services in the Department of**  
35 **Education by November 1. The division shall review the transcript**  
36 **to ensure compliance with this section of law. The costs of staff**  
37 **training and transcribing the public hearing and printing the**  
38 **transcript shall be paid by the Department of Education.]**

39 (cf: P.L.2001, c.299)

40

41 2. N.J.S.18A:18A-5 is amended to read as follows:

42 18A:18A-5. Exceptions to requirement for advertising. Any  
43 contract, the amount of which exceeds the bid threshold, shall be  
44 negotiated and awarded by the board of education by resolution at a  
45 public meeting without public advertising for bids and bidding

**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   therefor if

2       a. The subject matter thereof consists of:

3       (1) Professional services. The board of education shall in each  
4 instance state supporting reasons for its action in the resolution  
5 awarding each contract and shall forthwith cause to be printed once,  
6 in an official newspaper, a brief notice stating the nature, duration,  
7 service and amount of the contract, and that the resolution and  
8 contract are on file and available for public inspection in the office  
9 of the board of education;

10       (2) Extraordinary unspecifiable services which cannot reasonably  
11 be described by written specifications. The application of this  
12 exception as to extraordinary unspecifiable services shall be  
13 construed narrowly in favor of open competitive bidding where  
14 possible and the Director of the Division of Local Government  
15 Services in the Department of Community Affairs is authorized to  
16 establish rules and regulations after consultation with the  
17 Commissioner of Education limiting its use in accordance with the  
18 intention herein expressed; and the board of education shall in each  
19 instance state supporting reasons for its action in the resolution  
20 awarding the contract for extraordinary unspecifiable services and  
21 shall forthwith cause to be printed, in the manner set forth in  
22 paragraph (1) of this subsection, a brief notice of the award of such  
23 contract;

24       (3) The doing of any work by employees of the board of  
25 education;

26       (4) The printing of all legal notices; and legal briefs, records and  
27 appendices to be used in any legal proceeding in which the board of  
28 education may be a party;

29       (5) Library and educational goods and services;

30       (6) Food supplies, including food supplies for home economics  
31 classes, when purchased pursuant to rules and regulations of the  
32 State board and in accordance with the provisions of  
33 N.J.S.18A:18A-6;

34       (7) The supplying of any product or the rendering of any service  
35 by a public utility, which is subject to the jurisdiction of the Board  
36 of Public Utilities, in accordance with the tariffs and schedules of  
37 charges made, charged and exacted, filed with said board;

38       (8) The printing of bonds and documents necessary to the  
39 issuance and sale thereof by a board of education;

40       (9) Equipment repair service if in the nature of an extraordinary  
41 unspecifiable service and necessary parts furnished in connection  
42 with such services, which exception shall be in accordance with the  
43 requirements for extraordinary unspecifiable services;

44       (10) Insurance, including the purchase of insurance coverage and  
45 consultant services, which exception shall be in accordance with the  
46 requirements for extraordinary unspecifiable services;

47       (11) Publishing of legal notices in newspapers as required by  
48 law;

- 1 (12) The acquisition of artifacts or other items of unique  
2 intrinsic, artistic or historic character;
  - 3 (13) Those goods and services necessary or required to prepare  
4 and conduct an election;
  - 5 (14) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1999,c.440.)
  - 6 (15) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1999, c.270).
  - 7 (16) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1999,c.440.)
  - 8 (17) The doing of any work by persons with disabilities  
9 employed by a sheltered workshop;
  - 10 (18) Expenses for travel and conferences;
  - 11 (19) The provision or performance of goods or services for the  
12 support or maintenance of proprietary computer hardware and  
13 software, except that this provision shall not be utilized to acquire  
14 or upgrade non-proprietary hardware or acquire or update non-  
15 proprietary software;
  - 16 (20) Purchases of goods and services at rates set by the Universal  
17 Service Fund administered by the Federal Communications  
18 Commission;
  - 19 (21) Goods and services paid with funds that: are raised by or  
20 collected from students to support the purchase of student oriented  
21 items or materials, such as yearbooks, class rings, and a class gift;  
22 and are deposited in school or student activity accounts; and require  
23 no budget appropriation from the board of education;
  - 24 (22) Food services provided by food service management  
25 companies pursuant to procedures established by the New Jersey  
26 Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Child Nutrition Programs;
  - 27 (23) Vending machines providing food or drink.
- 28 b. It is to be made or entered into with the United States of  
29 America, the State of New Jersey, county or municipality or any  
30 board, body, officer, agency, authority or board of education or any  
31 other state or subdivision thereof.
- 32 c. Bids have been advertised pursuant to N.J.S.18A:18A-4 on  
33 two occasions and (1) no bids have been received on both occasions  
34 in response to the advertisement, or (2) the board of education has  
35 rejected such bids on two occasions because it has determined that  
36 they are not reasonable as to price, on the basis of cost estimates  
37 prepared for or by the board of education prior to the advertising  
38 therefor, or have not been independently arrived at in open  
39 competition, or (3) on one occasion no bids were received pursuant  
40 to (1) and on one occasion all bids were rejected pursuant to (2), in  
41 whatever sequence; any such contract may then be negotiated and  
42 may be awarded upon adoption of a resolution by a two-thirds  
43 affirmative vote of the authorized membership of the board of  
44 education authorizing such a contract; provided, however, that:
- 45 (a) A reasonable effort is first made by the board of education to  
46 determine that the same or equivalent goods or services, at a cost  
47 which is lower than the negotiated price, are not available from an  
48 agency or authority of the United States, the State of New Jersey or

1 of the county in which the board of education is located, or any  
2 municipality in close proximity to the board of education;

3 (b) The terms, conditions, restrictions and specifications set forth  
4 in the negotiated contract are not substantially different from those  
5 which were the subject of competitive bidding pursuant to  
6 N.J.S.18A:18A-4; and

7 (c) Any minor amendment or modification of any of the terms,  
8 conditions, restrictions and specifications which were the subject of  
9 competitive bidding pursuant to N.J.S.18A:18A-4 shall be stated in  
10 the resolution awarding the contract; provided further, however,  
11 that if on the second occasion the bids received are rejected as  
12 unreasonable as to price, the board of education shall notify each  
13 responsible bidder submitting bids on the second occasion of its  
14 intention to negotiate, and afford each bidder a reasonable  
15 opportunity to negotiate, but the board of education shall not award  
16 such contract unless the negotiated price is lower than the lowest  
17 rejected bid price submitted on the second occasion by a  
18 responsible bidder, is the lowest negotiated price offered by any  
19 responsible vendor, and is a reasonable price for such goods or  
20 services.

21 d. Whenever a board of education shall determine that a bid was  
22 not arrived at independently in open competition pursuant to  
23 subsection c.(2) of N.J.S.18A:18A-5, it shall thereupon notify the  
24 county prosecutor of the county in which the board of education is  
25 located and the Attorney General of the facts upon which its  
26 determination is based, and when appropriate, it may institute  
27 appropriate proceedings in any State or federal court of competent  
28 jurisdiction for a violation of any State or federal antitrust law or  
29 laws relating to the unlawful restraint of trade.

30 e. The board of education has solicited and received at least  
31 three quotations on materials, supplies or equipment for which a  
32 State contract has been issued pursuant to N.J.S.18A:18A-10, and  
33 the lowest responsible quotation is at least 10% less than the price  
34 the board would be charged for the identical materials, supplies or  
35 equipment, in the same quantities, under the State contract. Any  
36 such contract or agreement entered into pursuant to subsection d. or  
37 subsection e. may be made, negotiated or awarded only upon  
38 adoption of a resolution by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the  
39 full membership of the board of education at a meeting thereof  
40 authorizing such a contract or agreement. [A copy of the purchase  
41 order relating to any such contract, the requisition for purchase  
42 order, if applicable, and documentation identifying the price of the  
43 materials, supplies or equipment under the State contract and the  
44 State contract number shall be filed with the Director of the  
45 Division of Local Government Services in the Department of  
46 Community Affairs within five working days of the award of any  
47 such contract by the board of education. The director shall notify  
48 the board of education of receipt of the material and shall make the

1 material available to the State Treasurer.] The purchase order  
2 relating to any such contract shall include a notation that the  
3 material, supplies, or equipment was purchased at least 10% below  
4 the State contract price. The board of education shall make  
5 available to the **[director]** Director of the Division of Local  
6 Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs,  
7 upon request, any **[other]** documents relating to the solicitation and  
8 award of the contract, including, but not limited to, quotations,  
9 requests for quotations, and resolutions.  
10 (cf: P.L.1999, c.440, s.53)

11  
12 3. N.J.S.18A:19-3 is amended to read as follows:  
13 18A:19-3. All claims and demands, **[exceeding \$150.00 in**  
14 **amount]** that equal or exceed 15% of the bid threshold amount  
15 established pursuant to N.J.S.18A:18A-3, except for payrolls and  
16 debt service, shall be verified by affidavit, or by a signed  
17 declaration in writing, contained therein or annexed thereto, to the  
18 effect that the same are correct in all particulars, that the articles  
19 have been furnished or the services rendered as stated therein and  
20 that no bonus has been given or received on account thereof.  
21 (cf: P.L.1991, c.37, s.1)

22  
23 4. Section 2 of P.L.2001, c.298 (C.18A:36-5.1) is amended to  
24 read as follows:  
25 2. The week beginning with the third Monday in October of  
26 each year is designated as "School Violence Awareness Week" in  
27 the State of New Jersey. School districts shall observe this week by  
28 organizing activities to prevent school violence including, but not  
29 limited to, age-appropriate opportunities for student discussion on  
30 conflict resolution, issues of student diversity, and tolerance. Law  
31 enforcement personnel shall be invited to join members of the  
32 teaching staff in the discussions. Programs shall also be provided  
33 for school board employees that are designed to help them  
34 recognize warning signs of school violence and to instruct them on  
35 recommended conduct during an incident of school violence. **[The**  
36 **public hearing on violence and vandalism, required pursuant to**  
37 **section 1 of P.L.1982, c.163 (C.18A:17-46) as amended by**  
38 **P.L.2001, c.299, shall be held during this week.]** The Department  
39 of Education shall provide guidelines and information to boards of  
40 education for use in planning the activities in observance of the  
41 week and such funds as are necessary to pay the costs of the  
42 required activities and programs.  
43 (cf: P.L.2001, c.298, s.2)

44  
45 5. (New section) A school district may conduct a course of  
46 exercises or instruction in accordance with the core curriculum  
47 content standards to observe holidays, including, but not limited to,

1 Lincoln's Birthday, Washington's Birthday, Memorial Day,  
2 Columbus Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving Day, Arbor Day, and  
3 Commodore Barry Day.

4  
5 6. The following sections are repealed:

6 N.J.S.18A:36-8;

7 N.J.S.18A:36-9;

8 N.J.S.18A:36-11;

9 N.J.S.18A:36-12; and

10 N.J.S.18A:36-13.

11

12 7. This act shall take effect on July 1 next following the date of  
13 enactment.

14

15

16

#### STATEMENT

17

18 The bill eliminates the requirement for specific reporting to the  
19 Director of the Division of Local Government Services in those  
20 instances in which a board of education has determined not to take  
21 advantage of a State contract for the purchase of an item because  
22 the board can purchase that item at a price which is at least 10%  
23 below that available under the State contract. Rather, the bill  
24 provides that the purchase order relating to the contract must  
25 include a notation that the item was purchased at least 10% below  
26 the State contract price. Also, the board will make available to the  
27 director, upon his request, any documents relating to the solicitation  
28 and award of the contract.

29 The bill also revises the threshold for the affidavit requirement  
30 on purchases by school districts from \$150 to an amount equal to  
31 15% or more of the bid threshold, which is the amount at which a  
32 school district is required under current law to solicit quotations  
33 prior to entering into contracts.

34 The bill eliminates the transcript requirement for the annual  
35 public hearing for violence and vandalism that a district is required  
36 to hold under N.J.S.A.18A:17-46. The cost of a transcript can run  
37 from several hundred dollars to several thousand, depending on the  
38 length of the hearing. Meeting minutes can accurately verify that a  
39 hearing took place, identify the names of speakers, and capture  
40 discussion at the hearing without this additional expense.

41 The bill also eliminates the requirement that a district hold its  
42 annual hearing on violence and vandalism during the third week in  
43 October. Although the third week in October is School Violence  
44 Week, compliance with the statute may require a board which does  
45 not regularly meet at that time to hold a special meeting. The bill  
46 gives districts discretion to set hearing dates that fit their calendars.

47 This bill eliminates the requirement that school districts conduct  
48 exercises or instruction to commemorate two specific holidays:

**A17 WATSON COLEMAN, CONAWAY**

8

1 Arbor Day and Commodore Barry Day. The bill also eliminates the  
2 requirement that school districts hold exercises on the last school  
3 day preceding various patriotic holidays. Rather than mandating  
4 activities to commemorate holidays, this bill would permit schools  
5 districts to conduct exercises and instruction to observe holidays.  
6 These provisions concerning curriculum are designed to provide  
7 school districts more flexibility and to recognize the fact that the  
8 core curriculum content standards should drive the provision of  
9 instruction in schools.



# SENATE, No. 9

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 212th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED DECEMBER 11, 2006

**Sponsored by:**  
**Senator JOHN H. ADLER**  
**District 6 (Camden)**

### **SYNOPSIS**

Eliminates various mandates imposed on public school districts.

### **CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning certain mandates imposed on public school  
2 districts and amending, supplementing and repealing various  
3 sections of 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. Section 1 of P.L.1982, c.163 (C.18A:17-46) is amended to  
9 read as follows:

10 1. Any school employee observing or having direct knowledge  
11 from a participant or victim of an act of violence shall, in  
12 accordance with standards established by the commissioner, file a  
13 report describing the incident to the school principal in a manner  
14 prescribed by the commissioner, and copy of same shall be  
15 forwarded to the district superintendent.

16 The principal shall notify the district superintendent of schools  
17 of the action taken regarding the incident. Annually, at a public  
18 hearing **[in October]**, the superintendent of schools shall report to  
19 the board of education all acts of violence and vandalism which  
20 occurred during the previous school year. **[The proceedings of the**  
21 **public hearing shall be transcribed and kept on file by the board of**  
22 **education, which shall make the transcript available to the public.]**  
23 Verification of the annual report on violence and vandalism shall be  
24 part of the State's monitoring of the school district, and the State  
25 Board of Education shall adopt regulations that impose a penalty on  
26 a school employee who knowingly falsifies the report. A board of  
27 education shall provide ongoing staff training, in cooperation with  
28 the Department of Education, in fulfilling the reporting  
29 requirements pursuant to this section. The majority representative  
30 of the school employees shall have access monthly to the number  
31 and disposition of all reported acts of school violence and  
32 vandalism.

33 **[The board of education shall file the transcript of the public**  
34 **hearing with the Division of Student Services in the Department of**  
35 **Education by November 1. The division shall review the transcript**  
36 **to ensure compliance with this section of law. The costs of staff**  
37 **training and transcribing the public hearing and printing the**  
38 **transcript shall be paid by the Department of Education.]**

39 (cf: P.L.2001, c.299)

40  
41 2. N.J.S.18A:18A-5 is amended to read as follows:

42 18A:18A-5. Exceptions to requirement for advertising. Any  
43 contract, the amount of which exceeds the bid threshold, shall be  
44 negotiated and awarded by the board of education by resolution at a  
45 public meeting without public advertising for bids and bidding

**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   therefor if

2       a. The subject matter thereof consists of:

3       (1) Professional services. The board of education shall in each  
4 instance state supporting reasons for its action in the resolution  
5 awarding each contract and shall forthwith cause to be printed once,  
6 in an official newspaper, a brief notice stating the nature, duration,  
7 service and amount of the contract, and that the resolution and  
8 contract are on file and available for public inspection in the office  
9 of the board of education;

10       (2) Extraordinary unspecifiable services which cannot reasonably  
11 be described by written specifications. The application of this  
12 exception as to extraordinary unspecifiable services shall be  
13 construed narrowly in favor of open competitive bidding where  
14 possible and the Director of the Division of Local Government  
15 Services in the Department of Community Affairs is authorized to  
16 establish rules and regulations after consultation with the  
17 Commissioner of Education limiting its use in accordance with the  
18 intention herein expressed; and the board of education shall in each  
19 instance state supporting reasons for its action in the resolution  
20 awarding the contract for extraordinary unspecifiable services and  
21 shall forthwith cause to be printed, in the manner set forth in  
22 paragraph (1) of this subsection, a brief notice of the award of such  
23 contract;

24       (3) The doing of any work by employees of the board of  
25 education;

26       (4) The printing of all legal notices; and legal briefs, records and  
27 appendices to be used in any legal proceeding in which the board of  
28 education may be a party;

29       (5) Library and educational goods and services;

30       (6) Food supplies, including food supplies for home economics  
31 classes, when purchased pursuant to rules and regulations of the  
32 State board and in accordance with the provisions of  
33 N.J.S.18A:18A-6;

34       (7) The supplying of any product or the rendering of any service  
35 by a public utility, which is subject to the jurisdiction of the Board  
36 of Public Utilities, in accordance with the tariffs and schedules of  
37 charges made, charged and exacted, filed with said board;

38       (8) The printing of bonds and documents necessary to the  
39 issuance and sale thereof by a board of education;

40       (9) Equipment repair service if in the nature of an extraordinary  
41 unspecifiable service and necessary parts furnished in connection  
42 with such services, which exception shall be in accordance with the  
43 requirements for extraordinary unspecifiable services;

44       (10) Insurance, including the purchase of insurance coverage and  
45 consultant services, which exception shall be in accordance with the  
46 requirements for extraordinary unspecifiable services;

47       (11) Publishing of legal notices in newspapers as required by  
48 law;

S9 ADLER

- 1 (12) The acquisition of artifacts or other items of unique  
2 intrinsic, artistic or historic character;
  - 3 (13) Those goods and services necessary or required to prepare  
4 and conduct an election;
  - 5 (14) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1999,c.440.)
  - 6 (15) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1999, c.270).
  - 7 (16) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1999,c.440.)
  - 8 (17) The doing of any work by persons with disabilities  
9 employed by a sheltered workshop;
  - 10 (18) Expenses for travel and conferences;
  - 11 (19) The provision or performance of goods or services for the  
12 support or maintenance of proprietary computer hardware and  
13 software, except that this provision shall not be utilized to acquire  
14 or upgrade non-proprietary hardware or acquire or update non-  
15 proprietary software;
  - 16 (20) Purchases of goods and services at rates set by the Universal  
17 Service Fund administered by the Federal Communications  
18 Commission;
  - 19 (21) Goods and services paid with funds that: are raised by or  
20 collected from students to support the purchase of student oriented  
21 items or materials, such as yearbooks, class rings, and a class gift;  
22 and are deposited in school or student activity accounts; and require  
23 no budget appropriation from the board of education;
  - 24 (22) Food services provided by food service management  
25 companies pursuant to procedures established by the New Jersey  
26 Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Child Nutrition Programs;
  - 27 (23) Vending machines providing food or drink.
- 28 b. It is to be made or entered into with the United States of  
29 America, the State of New Jersey, county or municipality or any  
30 board, body, officer, agency, authority or board of education or any  
31 other state or subdivision thereof.
- 32 c. Bids have been advertised pursuant to N.J.S.18A:18A-4 on  
33 two occasions and (1) no bids have been received on both occasions  
34 in response to the advertisement, or (2) the board of education has  
35 rejected such bids on two occasions because it has determined that  
36 they are not reasonable as to price, on the basis of cost estimates  
37 prepared for or by the board of education prior to the advertising  
38 therefor, or have not been independently arrived at in open  
39 competition, or (3) on one occasion no bids were received pursuant  
40 to (1) and on one occasion all bids were rejected pursuant to (2), in  
41 whatever sequence; any such contract may then be negotiated and  
42 may be awarded upon adoption of a resolution by a two-thirds  
43 affirmative vote of the authorized membership of the board of  
44 education authorizing such a contract; provided, however, that:
- 45 (a) A reasonable effort is first made by the board of education to  
46 determine that the same or equivalent goods or services, at a cost  
47 which is lower than the negotiated price, are not available from an  
48 agency or authority of the United States, the State of New Jersey or

1 of the county in which the board of education is located, or any  
2 municipality in close proximity to the board of education;

3 (b) The terms, conditions, restrictions and specifications set forth  
4 in the negotiated contract are not substantially different from those  
5 which were the subject of competitive bidding pursuant to  
6 N.J.S.18A:18A-4; and

7 (c) Any minor amendment or modification of any of the terms,  
8 conditions, restrictions and specifications which were the subject of  
9 competitive bidding pursuant to N.J.S.18A:18A-4 shall be stated in  
10 the resolution awarding the contract; provided further, however,  
11 that if on the second occasion the bids received are rejected as  
12 unreasonable as to price, the board of education shall notify each  
13 responsible bidder submitting bids on the second occasion of its  
14 intention to negotiate, and afford each bidder a reasonable  
15 opportunity to negotiate, but the board of education shall not award  
16 such contract unless the negotiated price is lower than the lowest  
17 rejected bid price submitted on the second occasion by a  
18 responsible bidder, is the lowest negotiated price offered by any  
19 responsible vendor, and is a reasonable price for such goods or  
20 services.

21 d. Whenever a board of education shall determine that a bid was  
22 not arrived at independently in open competition pursuant to  
23 subsection c.(2) of N.J.S.18A:18A-5, it shall thereupon notify the  
24 county prosecutor of the county in which the board of education is  
25 located and the Attorney General of the facts upon which its  
26 determination is based, and when appropriate, it may institute  
27 appropriate proceedings in any State or federal court of competent  
28 jurisdiction for a violation of any State or federal antitrust law or  
29 laws relating to the unlawful restraint of trade.

30 e. The board of education has solicited and received at least  
31 three quotations on materials, supplies or equipment for which a  
32 State contract has been issued pursuant to N.J.S.18A:18A-10, and  
33 the lowest responsible quotation is at least 10% less than the price  
34 the board would be charged for the identical materials, supplies or  
35 equipment, in the same quantities, under the State contract. Any  
36 such contract or agreement entered into pursuant to subsection d. or  
37 subsection e. may be made, negotiated or awarded only upon  
38 adoption of a resolution by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the  
39 full membership of the board of education at a meeting thereof  
40 authorizing such a contract or agreement. [A copy of the purchase  
41 order relating to any such contract, the requisition for purchase  
42 order, if applicable, and documentation identifying the price of the  
43 materials, supplies or equipment under the State contract and the  
44 State contract number shall be filed with the Director of the  
45 Division of Local Government Services in the Department of  
46 Community Affairs within five working days of the award of any  
47 such contract by the board of education. The director shall notify  
48 the board of education of receipt of the material and shall make the

1 material available to the State Treasurer.] The purchase order  
2 relating to any such contract shall include a notation that the  
3 material, supplies, or equipment was purchased at least 10% below  
4 the State contract price. The board of education shall make  
5 available to the **[director]** Director of the Division of Local  
6 Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs,  
7 upon request, any **[other]** documents relating to the solicitation and  
8 award of the contract, including, but not limited to, quotations,  
9 requests for quotations, and resolutions.

10 (cf: P.L.1999, c.440, s.53)

11

12 3. N.J.S.18A:19-3 is amended to read as follows:

13 18A:19-3. All claims and demands, **[exceeding \$150.00 in**  
14 **amount]** that equal or exceed 15% of the bid threshold amount  
15 established pursuant to N.J.S.18A:18A-3, except for payrolls and  
16 debt service, shall be verified by affidavit, or by a signed  
17 declaration in writing, contained therein or annexed thereto, to the  
18 effect that the same are correct in all particulars, that the articles  
19 have been furnished or the services rendered as stated therein and  
20 that no bonus has been given or received on account thereof.

21 (cf: P.L.1991, c.37, s.1)

22

23 4. Section 2 of P.L.2001, c.298 (C.18A:36-5.1) is amended to  
24 read as follows:

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

43 (cf: P.L.2001, c.298, s.2)

44

45 5. (New section) A school district may conduct a course of  
46 exercises or instruction in accordance with the core curriculum  
47 content standards to observe holidays, including, but not limited to,

1 Lincoln's Birthday, Washington's Birthday, Memorial Day,  
2 Columbus Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving Day, Arbor Day, and  
3 Commodore Barry Day.

4

5 6. The following sections are repealed:

6 N.J.S.18A:36-8;

7 N.J.S.18A:36-9;

8 N.J.S.18A:36-11;

9 N.J.S.18A:36-12; and

10 N.J.S.18A:36-13.

11

12 7. This act shall take effect on July 1 next following the date of  
13 enactment.

14

15

16

#### STATEMENT

17

18 The bill eliminates the requirement for specific reporting to the  
19 Director of the Division of Local Government Services in those  
20 instances in which a board of education has determined not to take  
21 advantage of a State contract for the purchase of an item because  
22 the board can purchase that item at a price which is at least 10%  
23 below that available under the State contract. Rather, the bill  
24 provides that the purchase order relating to the contract must  
25 include a notation that the item was purchased at least 10% below  
26 the State contract price. Also, the board will make available to the  
27 director, upon his request, any documents relating to the solicitation  
28 and award of the contract.

29 The bill also revises the threshold for the affidavit requirement  
30 on purchases by school districts from \$150 to an amount equal to  
31 15% or more of the bid threshold, which is the amount at which a  
32 school district is required under current law to solicit quotations  
33 prior to entering into contracts.

34 The bill eliminates the transcript requirement for the annual  
35 public hearing for violence and vandalism that a district is required  
36 to hold under N.J.S.A.18A:17-46. The cost of a transcript can run  
37 from several hundred dollars to several thousand, depending on the  
38 length of the hearing. Meeting minutes can accurately verify that a  
39 hearing took place, identify the names of speakers, and capture  
40 discussion at the hearing without this additional expense.

41 The bill also eliminates the requirement that a district hold its  
42 annual hearing on violence and vandalism during the third week in  
43 October. Although the third week in October is School Violence  
44 Week, compliance with the statute may require a board which does  
45 not regularly meet at that time to hold a special meeting. The bill  
46 gives districts discretion to set hearing dates that fit their calendars.

47 This bill eliminates the requirement that school districts conduct  
48 exercises or instruction to commemorate two specific holidays:

**S9 ADLER**

8

1 Arbor Day and Commodore Barry Day. The bill also eliminates the  
2 requirement that school districts hold exercises on the last school  
3 day preceding various patriotic holidays. Rather than mandating  
4 activities to commemorate holidays, this bill would permit schools  
5 districts to conduct exercises and instruction to observe holidays.  
6 These provisions concerning curriculum are designed to provide  
7 school districts more flexibility and to recognize the fact that the  
8 core curriculum content standards should drive the provision of  
9 instruction in schools.



## Jan-26-07 Governor Corzine Vetoes Legislation

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

**Anthony Coley  
Brendan Gilfillan  
609-777-2600**

### **GOVERNOR CORZINE VETOES LEGISLATION**

**TRENTON** - Governor Jon S. Corzine today vetoed the following bill. The conditional veto message is reprinted below.

**A-17/S-9** (Watson Coleman, Conaway, Stack, Mayer, Lampitt, Greenwald, Cruz-Perez, Burzichelli, Vas, Greenstein/Adler) – **CONDITIONAL VETO** – Eliminates various mandates imposed on public school districts.

#### ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 17

To the General Assembly:

Pursuant to Article V, Section I, Paragraph 14 of the New Jersey Constitution, I am returning Assembly Bill No. 17 with my recommendations for reconsideration.

This bill seeks to eliminate various State mandates imposed on public school districts. I commend the sponsors of this bill for their efforts in responding to Recommendation 26 of the Special Session Joint Legislative Committee's December 1, 2006 School Funding Final Report, calling for the elimination of a variety of unnecessary State mandates. The bill rightfully eliminates several unnecessary mandates and gives school districts the flexibility needed to conduct business in the most effective and least costly manner.

I further agree with the removal of State mandates requiring public schools to commemorate a variety of holidays, leaving commemoration decisions to be made by the school districts themselves. Nonetheless, I am concerned with including Memorial Day and Veterans' Day among the list of those holidays

whose observance is left to local discretion. Given the past sacrifices of our veterans and the sacrifices now being made by those serving in the Armed Forces, especially the sacrifices of those who gave their lives in service to their country, it is imperative that New Jersey school children be reminded of those valiant men and women who have demonstrated their patriotism, love of country, and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good. I am further concerned about the bill's removal of the observance of President's Day, Columbus Day and Commodore Barry Day, each of which serves as needed recognition of the many great leaders who have helped form this nation.

Accordingly, I herewith return Assembly Bill No. 17 and recommend that it be amended as follows:

Page 7, Section 5, Line 1: Delete "Washington's Birthday, Memorial Day,"

Page 7, Section 5, Line 2: Delete "Columbus Day, Veterans Day, ". After "Thanksgiving Day," insert "and". After "Arbor Day" delete ", and" and insert "."

Page 7, Section 5, Line 3: Delete "Commodore Barry Day."

Page 7, Section 6, Line 6: After "N.J.S. 18A:36-8;" insert "and"

Page 7, Section 6, Line 7: After "N.J.S. 18A:36-9" delete ";" and insert "."

Page 7, Section 6, Line 8: Delete "N.J.S. 18A:36-11;"

Page 7, Section 6, Line 9: Delete "N.J.S. 18A:36-12; and"

Page 7, Section 6, Line 10: Delete "N.J.S. 18A:36-13."

Page 7, Section 7, Line 12: Insert new Section 7 as follows:

"7. P.L.1967, c.271 (18A:36-13) is amended to read as follows:

Appropriate exercises for the development of a higher spirit of patriotism shall be held in all public schools on the last school day preceding [Lincoln's Birthday,] Washington's Birthday (also celebrated as President's Day), Decoration or Memorial Day, Columbus Day, and Veterans Day [, and Thanksgiving Day, and on such other patriotic holidays as shall be established by law]."

Page 7, Section 7, Line 12:      Renumber Section 7 as Section 8

## Feb-15-07 Governor Signs Legislation Eliminating School Mandates

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
DATE: February 15, 2007

CONTACT: Anthony Coley  
Brendan Gilfillan  
PHONE: 609-777-2600

### **GOVERNOR SIGNS LEGISLATION ELIMINATING SCHOOL MANDATES**

**TRENTON-** Governor Jon S. Corzine today signed legislation to eliminate a variety of unnecessary mandates imposed upon schools. The legislation incorporates the recommendations of the Governor's conditional veto dated January 29, 2007.

The amended bill returns Columbus Day, Commodore Barry Day, Veteran's Day, Memorial Day, and President's Day to the list of those holidays that must be recognized by all of the State's public school districts.

The bill, A17, was sponsored in the Assembly by Assemblymembers Bonnie Watson Coleman (D-Mercer), Herb Conaway (D-Burlington/Camden), Brian Stack (D-Hudson), David Mayer (D-Camden/ Gloucester), Pamela Lampitt (D-Camden), Louis Greenwald (D-Camden), Nilsa Cruz-Perez (D-Camden/Gloucester), John Burzichelli (D-Salem/Cumberland/ Gloucester), Joseph Vas (D-Middlesex), and Linda Greenstein (D-Mercer/ Middlesex). The Senate bill was sponsored by Senator John Adler (D-Camden).