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RH/CL

P.L. 2020, CHAPTER 143, *approved December 23, 2020*  
Assembly, No. 4975 (*Third Reprint*)

1 AN ACT concerning the New Jersey Quality Single Accountability  
2 Continuum and supplementing P.L.1975, c.212 (C.18A:7A-3 et  
3 seq.).  
4

5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
6 of New Jersey:  
7

8 1. a. <sup>3</sup>(1)<sup>3</sup> Notwithstanding the provisions of section 11 of  
9 P.L.1975, c.212 (C.18A:7A-11) or any other section of law to the  
10 contrary, the Department of Education shall postpone the  
11 comprehensive review under the New Jersey Quality Single  
12 Accountability Continuum <sup>2</sup>[until the 2021-2022 school year for] of<sup>2</sup>  
13 any school district that <sup>1</sup>[is required to undergo]<sup>1</sup>:

14 <sup>3</sup>[(1)] (a)<sup>3</sup> <sup>1</sup>is required to undergo<sup>1</sup> a comprehensive review in  
15 the <sup>1</sup>[2019-2020] 2020-2021<sup>1</sup> school year<sup>1</sup>[, which review was not  
16 completed due to the COVID-19-related school closures]<sup>1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>[or] and<sup>1</sup>

17 <sup>3</sup>[(2)] (b)<sup>3</sup> <sup>1</sup>[a comprehensive review in the 2020-2021 school  
18 year] was designated as a high performing district pursuant to section  
19 14 of P.L.1975, c.212 (C.18A:7A-14) in the school district's most  
20 recent comprehensive review<sup>1</sup>.

21 <sup>3</sup>(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection to the  
22 contrary, the Commissioner of Education shall permit a school district  
23 that is subject to the postponement of a comprehensive review under  
24 paragraph (1) of this subsection to undergo a comprehensive review in  
25 the 2020-2021 school year, upon request by the school district. A  
26 school district that undergoes a comprehensive review in the 2020-  
27 2021 school year pursuant to this paragraph shall undergo its next  
28 comprehensive review three years after the 2020-2021 school year.<sup>3</sup>

29 b. If <sup>2</sup>the comprehensive review of<sup>2</sup> a school district is <sup>2</sup>[required  
30 to undergo a comprehensive review in the 2021-2022 school year due  
31 to the postponement provided] postponed<sup>2</sup> under <sup>3</sup>paragraph (1) of<sup>3</sup>  
32 subsection a. of this section, then the school district shall undergo its  
33 next <sup>2</sup>[following]<sup>2</sup> comprehensive review three years after the school  
34 year in which its comprehensive review was originally scheduled to  
35 take place.

36 c. <sup>1</sup>[The postponement of the comprehensive review for school  
37 districts under subsection a. of this subsection shall not disrupt the  
38 comprehensive review schedule for any other school district.

39 d. Notwithstanding the provisions of this section to the contrary,  
40 the Commissioner of Education may exempt a school district, upon

**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 AAP committee amendments adopted November 12, 2020.

<sup>2</sup>Assembly floor amendments adopted November 16, 2020.

<sup>3</sup>Assembly AED committee amendments adopted December 14, 2020.

1 request, from the postponement of the comprehensive review required  
2 pursuant to this section】 A school district that is required to undergo a  
3 comprehensive review in the 2020-2021 school year and was not  
4 designated as a high performing district pursuant to section 14 of  
5 P.L.1975, c.212 (C.18A:7A-14) in the school district’s most recent  
6 comprehensive review shall undergo a comprehensive review under  
7 the New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum in the 2020-  
8 2021 school year, except that such a district may postpone its  
9 comprehensive review until the 2021-2022 school year if the district  
10 provides written notification to the Commissioner of Education that it  
11 is not able to complete the review due to the impacts of the COVID-19  
12 pandemic.

13 d. If a school district postpones its comprehensive review until  
14 the 2021-2022 school year pursuant to subsection c. of this section,  
15 then the school district shall undergo its next following comprehensive  
16 review three years after the school year in which its comprehensive  
17 review was originally scheduled to take place<sup>1</sup>.

18

19 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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24 Provides for postponement of New Jersey Quality Single  
25 Accountability Continuum review for certain school districts.

# ASSEMBLY, No. 4975

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED NOVEMBER 12, 2020

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman NICHOLAS CHIARAVALLOTTI**

**District 31 (Hudson)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Postpones New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum (NJQSAC) review for certain school districts to accommodate disruption due to COVID-19 pandemic.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



A4975 CHIARAVALLOTTI

2

1 AN ACT concerning the New Jersey Quality Single Accountability  
2 Continuum and supplementing P.L.1975, c.212 (C.18A:7A-3 et  
3 seq.).

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

7  
8 1. a. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 11 of  
9 P.L.1975, c.212 (C.18A:7A-11) or any other section of law to the  
10 contrary, the Department of Education shall postpone the  
11 comprehensive review under the New Jersey Quality Single  
12 Accountability Continuum until the 2021-2022 school year for any  
13 school district that is required to undergo:

14 (1) a comprehensive review in the 2019-2020 school year,  
15 which review was not completed due to the COVID-19-related  
16 school closures; or

17 (2) a comprehensive review in the 2020-2021 school year.

18 b. If a school district is required to undergo a comprehensive  
19 review in the 2021-2022 school year due to the postponement  
20 provided under subsection a. of this section, then the school district  
21 shall undergo its next following comprehensive review three years  
22 after the school year in which its comprehensive review was  
23 originally scheduled to take place.

24 c. The postponement of the comprehensive review for school  
25 districts under subsection a. of this subsection shall not disrupt the  
26 comprehensive review schedule for any other school district.

27 d. Notwithstanding the provisions of this section to the  
28 contrary, the Commissioner of Education may exempt a school  
29 district, upon request, from the postponement of the comprehensive  
30 review required pursuant to this section.

31

32 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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37 This bill postpones the comprehensive review of certain school  
38 districts under the New Jersey Quality Single Accountability  
39 Continuum (NJQSAC) until the 2021-2022 school year.

40 Under current law, each school district is required to undergo a  
41 comprehensive review under the State monitoring system, the  
42 NJQSAC. Each school district is currently required to undergo the  
43 comprehensive review once every three years according to a  
44 schedule established by the Commissioner of Education. As a  
45 result, only a certain number of school districts undergo monitoring  
46 during any given year.

47 Under the bill, the comprehensive review of certain districts  
48 would be postponed to allow school districts and the Department of

**A4975 CHIARAVALLOTI**

1 Education to focus additional resources on addressing issues related  
2 to the COVID-19 pandemic. Specifically, the bill requires the  
3 comprehensive review to be conducted during the 2021-2022 school  
4 year for any school district that was required to undergo its review  
5 during (1) the 2019-2020 school year, which review was not  
6 completed due to the COVID-19-related school closures; or (2) the  
7 2020-2021 school year.

8 If a school district undergoes a comprehensive review during the  
9 2021-2022 school as a result of the postponement, the district would  
10 be required to undergo its next review as if the postponement had  
11 not occurred (i.e., three years after the school year in which the  
12 review was originally scheduled to take place). The bill allows  
13 school districts to make a request to the commissioner for an  
14 exemption from the postponement. The bill also stipulates that the  
15 postponements required under the bill may not disrupt the schedule  
16 for any other school district's comprehensive review.

# ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### ASSEMBLY, No. 4975

with committee amendments

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: NOVEMBER 12, 2020

The Assembly Appropriations Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 4975, with committee amendments.

As amended, this bill postpones the comprehensive review of certain school districts under the New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum (NJQSAC) until the 2021-2022 school year.

Under current law, each school district is required to undergo a comprehensive review under the State monitoring system, the NJQSAC. Each school district is currently required to undergo the comprehensive review once every three years according to a schedule established by the Commissioner of Education. As a result, only a certain number of school districts undergo comprehensive reviews during any given year.

As amended, the bill would postpone until the 2021-2022 school year the comprehensive review of districts that are: 1) required to undergo a comprehensive review in the 2020-2021 school year; and 2) were designated as high performing districts in those districts' most recent comprehensive reviews. Under current law, a district that is found to satisfy 80 percent to 100 percent of the quality performance indicators in each of the five key components of school district effectiveness is issued a letter of recognition designating the district as a high performing district.

If a high performing school district undergoes a comprehensive review during the 2021-2022 school year as a result of the postponement provided in the bill, the district would be required to undergo its next review as if the postponement had not occurred.

As amended, the bill also stipulates that a school district that is required to undergo a comprehensive review in the 2020-2021 school year and was not designated as a high performing district in its most recent comprehensive review will undergo a comprehensive review in the 2020-2021 school year. The bill provides, however, that such a district may postpone its comprehensive review until the 2021-2022 school year if the district provides written notification to the Commissioner of Education that it is not able to complete the review due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. If a school district chooses to postpone its comprehensive review, then the district would



undergo its next following comprehensive review as if the postponement had not occurred.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The committee amended the bill to:

- remove a provision of the bill providing for the postponement of a school district's comprehensive review if the district's review was scheduled to be conducted in the 2019-2020 school year but was not completed due to the COVID 19-related school closures;
- require that a school district that was designated as a high performing district in its most recent comprehensive review would not have to undergo its next review until the 2021-2022 school year, if the district was scheduled to undergo a review in the 2020-2021 school year;
- clarify that a school district that is required to undergo a comprehensive review in the 2020-2021 school year but was not designated as a high performing district in its most recent comprehensive review will undergo a comprehensive review in the 2020-2021 school year. However, such a school district may postpone its review until the 2021-2022 school year if the district provides written notification to the Commissioner of Education that it is not able to complete the review due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic;
- provide that if a school district that is required to undergo a comprehensive review in the 2020-2021 school year and that was not designated as a high performing district in its most recent comprehensive review chooses to postpone its comprehensive review until the 2021-2022 school year, then the district would undergo its next following comprehensive review three years after the school year in which its review was originally scheduled to take place; and
- remove a provision of the bill which permitted a school district to request and receive an exemption from the postponement of the comprehensive review under the bill.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This bill is not certified as requiring a fiscal note.

# ASSEMBLY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

[Second Reprint]

## **ASSEMBLY, No. 4975**

with committee amendments

# **STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: DECEMBER 14, 2020

The Assembly Education Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 4975 (2R) with committee amendments.

As amended, this bill postpones the comprehensive review of certain school districts under the New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum (NJQSAC) until the 2023-2024 school year.

Under current law, each school district is required to undergo a comprehensive review under the State monitoring system, the NJQSAC. Each school district is currently required to undergo the comprehensive review once every three years according to a schedule established by the Commissioner of Education. As a result, only a certain number of school districts undergo monitoring during any given year.

This bill would postpone until the 2023-2024 school year the comprehensive review of districts that are: (1) required to undergo a comprehensive review in the 2020-2021 school year; and (2) were designated as a high performing district pursuant to section 14 of P.L.1975, c.212 (C.18A:7A-14) in the school district's most recent comprehensive review. However, the Commissioner of Education is required to permit a high performing school district that is subject to postponement under the bill to undergo a comprehensive review in the 2020-2021 school year, upon request by the school district. A high performing school district that elects to undergo its scheduled comprehensive review in the 2020-2021 school year would undergo its next comprehensive review three years after the 2020-2021 school year.

This bill requires a school district that is scheduled to undergo a comprehensive review in the 2020-2021 school year and was not designated as a high performing district in the school district's most recent comprehensive review to undergo the 2020-2021 NJQSAC as scheduled during the 2020-2021 school year, except that such a district may postpone its comprehensive review until the 2021-2022 school year if the district provides written notification to the Commissioner of Education that it is not able to complete the

review due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. A school district that postpones its comprehensive review pursuant to this exception will be required to undergo its next review as if the postponement had not occurred (i.e., three years after the school year in which the review was originally scheduled to take place).

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The committee amended the bill to require the Commissioner of Education to permit a high performing school district that is subject to postponement of a comprehensive review under the bill to undergo the review in the 2020-2021 school year, upon request by the school district. The amendments also provide that a high performing school district that elects to undergo its scheduled comprehensive review in the 2020-2021 school year would undergo its next comprehensive review three years after the 2020-2021 school year.

STATEMENT TO  
[First Reprint]  
**ASSEMBLY, No. 4975**

with Assembly Floor Amendments  
(Proposed by Assemblyman CHIARAVALLOTI)

ADOPTED: NOVEMBER 16, 2020

These floor amendments provide that the Department of Education will postpone until the 2023-2024 school year the comprehensive review under the New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum of any school district that: 1) is required to undergo a comprehensive review in the 2020-2021 school year; and 2) was designated as a high performing district in the school district's most recent comprehensive review.

**SENATE, No. 3187**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**219th LEGISLATURE**

INTRODUCED NOVEMBER 16, 2020

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator NELLIE POU**

**District 35 (Bergen and Passaic)**

**Senator SHIRLEY K. TURNER**

**District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Postpones New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum (NJQSAC) review for certain school districts to accommodate disruption due to COVID-19 pandemic.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/7/2020)**

1 AN ACT concerning the New Jersey Quality Single Accountability  
2 Continuum and supplementing P.L.1975, c.212 (C.18A:7A-3 et  
3 seq.).

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

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8 1. a. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 11 of  
9 P.L.1975, c.212 (C.18A:7A-11) or any other section of law to the  
10 contrary, the Department of Education shall postpone the  
11 comprehensive review under the New Jersey Quality Single  
12 Accountability Continuum until the 2021-2022 school year for any  
13 school district that is required to undergo:

14 (1) a comprehensive review in the 2019-2020 school year,  
15 which review was not completed due to the COVID-19-related  
16 school closures; or

17 (2) a comprehensive review in the 2020-2021 school year.

18 b. If a school district is required to undergo a comprehensive  
19 review in the 2021-2022 school year due to the postponement  
20 provided under subsection a. of this section, then the school district  
21 shall undergo its next following comprehensive review three years  
22 after the school year in which its comprehensive review was  
23 originally scheduled to take place.

24 c. The postponement of the comprehensive review for school  
25 districts under subsection a. of this subsection shall not disrupt the  
26 comprehensive review schedule for any other school district.

27 d. Notwithstanding the provisions of this section to the  
28 contrary, the Commissioner of Education may exempt a school  
29 district, upon request, from the postponement of the comprehensive  
30 review required pursuant to this section.

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32 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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#### STATEMENT

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37 This bill postpones the comprehensive review of certain school  
38 districts under the New Jersey Quality Single Accountability  
39 Continuum (NJQSAC) until the 2021-2022 school year.

40 Under current law, each school district is required to undergo a  
41 comprehensive review under the State monitoring system, the  
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43 comprehensive review once every three years according to a  
44 schedule established by the Commissioner of Education. As a  
45 result, only a certain number of school districts undergo monitoring  
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47 Under the bill, the comprehensive review of certain districts  
48 would be postponed to allow school districts and the Department of

**S3187 POU, TURNER**

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1 Education to focus additional resources on addressing issues related  
2 to the COVID-19 pandemic. Specifically, the bill requires the  
3 comprehensive review to be conducted during the 2021-2022 school  
4 year for any school district that was required to undergo its review  
5 during (1) the 2019-2020 school year, which review was not  
6 completed due to the COVID-19-related school closures; or (2) the  
7 2020-2021 school year.

8 If a school district undergoes a comprehensive review during the  
9 2021-2022 school as a result of the postponement, the district would  
10 be required to undergo its next review as if the postponement had  
11 not occurred (i.e., three years after the school year in which the  
12 review was originally scheduled to take place). The bill allows  
13 school districts to make a request to the commissioner for an  
14 exemption from the postponement. The bill also stipulates that the  
15 postponements required under the bill may not disrupt the schedule  
16 for any other school district's comprehensive review.

# SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### **SENATE, No. 3187**

with committee amendments

# **STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: DECEMBER 7, 2020

The Senate Education Committee favorably reports Senate Bill No. 3187 with committee amendments.

As amended, this bill postpones the comprehensive review of certain school districts under the New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum (NJQSAC) until the 2023-2024 school year.

Under current law, each school district is required to undergo a comprehensive review under the State monitoring system, the NJQSAC. Each school district is currently required to undergo the comprehensive review once every three years according to a schedule established by the Commissioner of Education. As a result, only a certain number of school districts undergo monitoring during any given year.

As amended, this bill would postpone until the 2023-2024 school year the comprehensive review of districts that are: 1) required to undergo a comprehensive review in the 2020-2021 school year; and 2) were designated as a high performing district pursuant to P.L.1975, c.212 (C.18A:7A-14) in the school district's most recent comprehensive review. However, the Commissioner of Education is required to permit a high performing school district that is subject to postponement under the bill to undergo a comprehensive review in the 2020-2021 school year, upon request by the school district. A high performing school district that elects to undergo its scheduled comprehensive review in the 2020-2021 school year would undergo its next comprehensive review three years after the 2020-2021 school year.

As amended, this bill requires a school district that is scheduled to undergo a comprehensive review in the 2020-2021 school year and which was not designated as a high performing district pursuant to P.L.1975, c.212 (C.18A:7A-14) in the school district's most recent comprehensive review to undergo the 2020-2021 NJQSAC as scheduled during the 2020-2021 school year, except that such a district may postpone its comprehensive review until the 2021-2022 school year if the district provides written notification to the Commissioner of Education that it is not able to complete the review due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. A school



district that postpones its comprehensive review pursuant to this exception will be required to undergo its next review as if the postponement had not occurred (i.e., three years after the school year in which the review was originally scheduled to take place).

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The committee amended this bill to remove a provision of the bill providing for the postponement of a school district's comprehensive review if the district's review was scheduled to be conducted in the 2019-2020 school year but was not completed due to the COVID-19 related school closures.

The amendments provide that the Department of Education will postpone the comprehensive review of a school district that: 1) is required to undergo a comprehensive review in the 2020-2021 school year, and 2) was designated as a high performing district pursuant to P.L.1975, c.212 (C.18A:7A-14) in the school districts most recent comprehensive review until three years after the school year in which the comprehensive review was originally scheduled to take place. The amendments require the Commissioner of Education to permit a high performing school district subject to postponement to undergo a comprehensive review in the 2020-2021 school year, upon request by the school district. A high performing school district that elects to undergo its scheduled comprehensive review in the 2020-2021 school year would undergo its next comprehensive review three years after the 2020-2021 school year.

The amendments provide that a school district that is scheduled to undergo a comprehensive review in the 2020-2021 school year which was not designated as a high performing district pursuant to P.L.1975, c.212 (C.18A:7A-14) to undergo the comprehensive review as scheduled, except that the district may postpone its comprehensive review until the 2021-2022 school year if it provides written notification to the Commissioner of Education that it is not able to complete the review due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. The amendments provide that a school district not designated as a high performing district which postpones its comprehensive review until the 2021-2022 school year will undergo its next comprehensive review as if the postponement had not occurred (i.e., three years after the school year in which the review was originally scheduled to take place).

# Governor Murphy Takes Action on Legislation

12/23/2020

**TRENTON** – Today, Governor Murphy signed the following bills into law:

**S-3046 wGR/A-4875 (Ruiz, Pou/Pintor Marin, Wimberly, Sumter)** – Extends certain document submission deadlines for Urban Transit Hub Tax Credit program and Economic Redevelopment and Growth Grant Program

**S-3225/A-5081 (Sweeney, Oroho/Freiman, Reynolds-Jackson, Taliaferro)** – Appropriates \$11.5 million from constitutionally dedicated CBT revenues to State Agriculture Development Committee for municipal planning incentive grants for farmland preservation purposes

**S-3226/A-5077 (Addiego, Bateman/Armato, Jasey, Houghtaling)** – Appropriates \$29,886,172 to State Agriculture Development Committee for farmland preservation purposes

**S-3228/A-5079 (Gopal/Taliaferro, Murphy, Houghtaling)** – Appropriates \$12 million from constitutionally dedicated CBT revenues to State Agriculture Development Committee for county planning incentive grants for farmland preservation purposes

**ACS for A-4907/SCS for S-3089 (Wimberly, Reynolds-Jackson, Tucker, Giblin/Cryan, Turner, Sweeney)** – Makes supplemental appropriation of \$58,000,000 for NJ Statewide Body Worn Camera Program

**A-4975/S-3187 (Chiaravalloti, Caputo/Pou, Turner)** – Provides for postponement of New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum review for certain school districts

**A-5080/S-3227 (Zwicker, Verrelli, Downey/Bateman, Codey)** – Appropriates \$3,763,625 from constitutionally dedicated CBT revenues to State Agriculture Development Committee for grants to certain nonprofit organizations for farmland preservation purposes

**A-5119/S-3218 (McKeon, Downey, Clifton, Wimberly/Pou, Sarlo, Sweeney)** – Provides for reorganization of health service corporation