

compete in championship tournaments, which has been in place since the 2006-2007 school year.

Status:

Assembly: C 2R P
Senate: I C 2R P

NJPSA supports this legislation.

S-1000 (Madden/Redd) - Requires public and nonpublic high schools to have person trained in cardio-pulmonary resuscitation on site at all school athletic events and practices.

Status:

Assembly: C 2R P
Senate: I C 2R P

NJPSA is monitoring this legislation.

Student Safety

S-110/A-2093 (Vainieri Huttle/Lampitt/Milam/Weinberg/Buono/Turner) - Revises criminal history record check process undergone by public and nonpublic school employees and school bus drivers.

This bill would require employees of public schools who were continuously employed in a school district since prior to 1986 to undergo a criminal history record check.

The bill also requires that all public school employees, school bus drivers, and persons employed in nonpublic schools that require criminal history record checks as a condition of employment, undergo a federal criminal history record check every two years, until such time as the federal government implements a program to retain the federal fingerprint image.

Finally, the bill explicitly includes administrators within the scope of the criminal background check requirement.

Status:

Assembly: C 2R P
Senate: I C 2R P

NJPSA supports this legislation.

S-1527 (Turner) - Requires all board of education employees to undergo the electronic fingerprinting process.

Status:

Assembly: C 2R P
Senate: I C 2R P

NJPSA supports this legislation.

S-2647/A-3813 (Turner/Spencer/Caputo) - Requires criminal history record check of school district volunteers.

The bill requires that any individual who

volunteers to provide service that involves regular, unsupervised contact with pupils on an unpaid basis in a public school district must undergo a criminal history record check in accordance with the same standards and procedures used to conduct such checks on paid school district employees.

The requirement would be applicable in the 2009-2010 school year. Any person serving in a school district as an unpaid volunteer in that school year or who first serves in that school district in any subsequent school year will be required to undergo a check.

Status:

Assembly: C 2R P
Senate: I C 2R P

NJPSA supports this legislation as amended.

S-70 (Rice) - Requires charter school board of trustee members to undergo criminal background checks and mandatory training.

The legislation requires members of the board of trustees of a charter school to undergo criminal history background checks as a condition of service on the board. The same conditions that govern the continued employment of private and public school employees would apply. The bill would also require that all first time board trustees complete a training program, focusing on the skills and knowledge necessary to serve as a trustee. This training program would also include instructional information relative to the trustee's responsibilities under the 'School Ethics Act.'

Status:

Assembly: C 2R P
Senate: I C 2R P

NJPSA supports this legislation.



A-2655/S-1809 (Sweeney/Burzichelli/Rible/Love) - Requires law enforcement agency to inform school principal of certain crimes committed by students.

The bill requires that high school principals be made aware when any high school student 18 or older is charged with crimes that: a) result in death or serious injury or involved an attempt to cause death or serious injury; b) involve the unlawful use or possession of a firearm or other weapon; c) involve the unlawful manufacture, distribution, or possession with the intent to distribute a controlled dangerous substance; d) constitute a bias or hate crime; or e) is classified as a crime of the first through third degree.

Status:

Assembly: I C 2R P
Senate: C 2R P

NJPSA supports this legislation.

A-3002 (Scalera/Lampitt) - Requires school security drills to improve emergency preparedness.

The bill would direct the Director of the Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness, in consultation with state education, fire safety, emergency management, state police and attorney general's office officials to develop and disseminate curriculum to each school district and nonpublic school to help them prepare and conduct school security drills.

Status:

Assembly: I C 2R P
Senate: C 2R P

NJPSA is monitoring this legislation.

A-3757/S-2705 (Albano/Vainieri Huttle/DeAngelo/Codey/Beach) - Provides penalties for sexually offensive communication or harassing communication through social networking websites.

Status:

Assembly: I C 2R P
Senate: C 2R P

NJPSA supports this legislation.

A-3762/S-2698 (DeAngelo/Burzichelli/Schaer/Beach) - Provides that information technology professionals who find child pornography on computers must report the finding to law enforcement.

Status:

Assembly: I C 2R P
Senate: C 2R P

NJPSA supports this legislation.

S-1007 (Allen) - Requires school districts to report to DOE certain information on students removed from school pursuant to "Zero Tolerance for Guns Act."

Status:

Assembly: C 2R P
Senate: I C 2R P

NJPSA supports this legislation.

S-1088/A-2335 (Kean/Baroni/Angelino/Rible) - Restricts the participation of school and county college employees in the search for and handling of explosive devices.

The bill provides that employees of public schools and county colleges may not be required to conduct a hands-on search for explosive devices, or handle or detonate an explosive device by any means or method and may not be required to supervise, or be present during, the handling or detonation of an explosive device. An employee may be required to participate in a visual search for an explosive device if the search is supervised by a first responder who has determined that the search would pose a minimal risk to safety.

Status:

Assembly: C 2R P
Senate: I C 2R P

NJPSA supports this legislation.

Transportation

A-347 (Diegnan) - Abigail's Law; requires that newly-manufactured school buses be equipped with sensors.

The measure would require that all newly-manufactured school buses be equipped with sensors approved by the state Motor Vehicles Commission.

Status:

Assembly: I C 2R P
Senate: C 2R P

NJPSA supports this legislation

A-371/S-1730 (Diegnan/Wolfe/Allen) - Lengthens service life of certain new school buses to 15 years.

Status:

Assembly: I C 2R P
Senate: C 2R P

NJPSA supports this legislation



Legislation of Interest



Status Key	
I -	Introduced
C -	Referred to Committee Review
2R -	Second Reading (bill is reported to house floor and may be amended on the floor. It is not eligible for vote until third reading, however)
P -	Passed in House

Attendance

A375/A1209/A1759 (Pou/Watson Coleman/Diegnan/Cruz-Perez/Vainieri Huttle) - Raises age requirement of compulsory school attendance from 16 to 18 years old.

Status:
 Assembly: I C 2R P
 Senate: C 2R P
NJPSA is monitoring this legislation.

Education Curricula

A-880 (Albano/Milam/Lampitt) - Establishes New Jersey Reading Disabilities Task Force.

The legislation establishes a taskforce to study best practices for diagnosing, treating and educating students with reading disabilities. The task force also would examine how state educational laws and regulations impact students with special reading and language skill needs.

Status:
 Assembly: I C 2R P
 Senate: C 2R P
NJPSA supports this legislation.

S-541 (Girgenti/Turner) - Establishes pilot program in Department of Education to provide instruction in personal finance to elementary school students.

The legislation would require the Commissioner of Education establish a three-year Youth Investment Club pilot program to provide elementary school students with financial literacy education.

Status:
 Assembly: C 2R P
 Senate: I C 2R P
NJPSA supports the infusion of financial literacy within the core curriculum content standards.

S2211/A1943 (Sweeney/Schaer/Lampitt/Coutinho) - Establishes pilot program in Department of Education to provide instruction in personal finance to high school seniors.

The bill establishes a three-year pilot program to provide high school seniors in

selected districts with a personal financial literacy course. The Commissioner is to select six districts for participation, two in each of the southern, central, and northern regions of the State.

Status:
 Assembly: C 2R P
 Senate: I C 2R P
NJPSA supports the infusion of financial literacy within the core curriculum content standards.

Education Generally

A-420 (Handlin/Voss) - Establishes measures to provide employment stability for teaching paraprofessionals employed in school districts that receive federal funding under Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. The bill provides that a paraprofessional employed in a Title I school district may be dismissed or reduced in compensation during the term of a contract only for just cause.

Status:
 Assembly: I C 2R P
 Senate: C 2R P
NJPSA supports this legislation.

A-3222/S-709 (McKeon/Jasey/Evans) - Establishes temperature control guidelines and standards for school facilities. The legislation requires that school districts ensure that school facilities provide students with a temperature-controlled environment that is conducive to learning. Each district must: 1) strive to maintain, to the extent feasible, room temperatures within the target range of 68 degrees Fahrenheit to 79 degrees Fahrenheit in all occupied areas of school facilities; 2) measure the temperature of an occupied area of a school facility, in the area where the greatest temperature extreme is expected, when a temperature outside the target range is suspected; 3) evacuate students and staff from an occupied area outside the permitted temperature range within two hours of the temperature measurement; and 4) report by telephone a temperature-related evacuation within 24 hours to DHSS.

Status:
 Assembly: I C 2R P
 Senate: C 2R P
NJPSA is opposed to this legislation as written but supports facilities improvements to address the bill's concerns.

S-60 (Rice) - Specifies certain requirements for approval of a charter school application. The bill requires applicants to provide written documentation that they have adequate finances to lease or purchase a facility.

Status:
 Assembly: C 2R P
 Senate: I C 2R P
NJPSA is neutral on this legislation.

S-2127 (Codey/Turner/Beck) - Requires certain conditions be met in order for school districts to provide their employees with tuition assistance for coursework. The legislation sets strict requirements that must be met for a board of education to provide tuition assistance or additional compensation for completed coursework or degrees.

Status:
 Assembly: C 2R P
 Senate: I C 2R P
NJPSA supports the goals of this legislation.

S-2161 (Turner) - Limits amount of time vacant teaching position can be filled by substitute teacher to 20 school days.

Status:
 Assembly: C 2R P
 Senate: I C 2R P
NJPSA seeks amendments to this legislation

Pensions & Benefits

A-3568/S-2226 (Cryan/Turner) - Clarifies school district employees subject to statutory provisions concerning supplemental compensation for unused sick leave and vacation carry forward requirements.

The bill clarifies that the cap provision (\$15,000) that retiring school employees can receive upon retirement for unused sick leave applies to school superintendents, assistant superintendents, business administrators.



Status:
 Assembly: I C 2R P
 Senate: C 2R P
NJPSA is monitoring this legislation.

A-2255 (Roberts) - Requires Mandated Health Benefits Advisory Commission to study financial impact of all enacted mandated health benefits.

Status:
 Assembly: I C 2R P
 Senate: C 2R P
NJPSA is monitoring this legislation.

A-2975/S-2160 (Turner/Cryan/Moriarty/Vas) - Includes limitations on amount of retirement compensation which may be provided by a school board in the employment contracts of superintendents of schools, assistant superintendents of schools, and school business administrators.

The legislation limits the amount of retirement compensation to what is authorized under P.L.2007, c.92 (effective June 2007).

Status:
 Assembly: I C 2R P
 Senate: C 2R P
NJPSA is monitoring this legislation.

School Administration

A-10 (Roberts) - Requires certain school districts to: 1) reduce per pupil administrative expenditures by 10% over three-year period; 2) require certain reporting by executive county superintendents of schools; and 3) schedule for appointment of such superintendents.

Status:
 Assembly: I C 2R P
 Senate: C 2R P
NJPSA opposes this legislation.

A-15/S-1681 (Turner/Roberts/Wolfe/Green) - Provides for the election of school board members at November general election and eliminates vote on school budgets except for separate proposals to spend above cap which will also occur at general election.

Status:
 Assembly: I C 2R P
 Senate: C 2R P
NJPSA supports this legislation.

A-2686/S-2655 (Voss/Whelan) - Requires simple majority for proposal to increase school tax levy above tax levy growth limit.

Status:
 Assembly: I C 2R P
 Senate: C 2R P
NJPSA supports this legislation.

S-2425 (Turner) - Requires superintendent to assume responsibilities of principal in certain school districts.

Status:
 Assembly: C 2R P
 Senate: I C 2R P
NJPSA opposes this legislation.

School Ethics

A-3043/S-2041 (Moriarty/Cryan/Love/Rice/Turner) - Requires the adoption of nepotism policies by school districts and charter schools.

The bill would codify DOE regulations that require each board of education to adopt and implement a nepotism policy that addresses the recommendation and hiring of a relative, supervision of a relative by a school administrator and the involvement of a school administrator in negotiating with a bargaining unit that includes a relative.

The measure would empower the Commissioner of Education to withhold state aid from any district that fails to adopt an anti-nepotism policy within three months.

Status:
 Assembly: I C 2R P
 Senate: C 2R P
NJPSA is neutral on this legislation but is seeking amendments to clarify the bill.

S-2490 (Turner) - Makes changes to the School Ethics Act. This legislation:

- 1) expands the definitions of "relative" and "member of immediate family";
- 2) permits the School Ethics Commission to take certain actions against a school official who fails to file the required financial disclosure statement or who files a statement containing information the person knows to be false;
- 3) specifically provides the commission the power to issue orders to show cause;
- 4) alters the procedures for processing complaints filed with the commission.

Status:
 Assembly: C 2R P
 Senate: I C 2R P
NJPSA supports this legislation as amended.



School Vouchers

S-1607/A-2897 (Lesniak/Cruz-Perez) - "Urban Enterprise Zone Jobs Scholarship Act"; establishes a pilot program in Department of the Treasury to provide tax credits for contributions to entities which provide tuition scholarships to children in certain urban enterprise zone municipalities.

This bill directs the Director of the Division of Taxation, in consultation with the New Jersey Urban Enterprise Zone Authority, to establish a five-year pilot program to provide tax credits to corporations which contribute funding to nonprofit organizations that provide scholarships to help low-income children residing in Camden, Elizabeth, Jersey City, Lakewood, Newark, Orange, Paterson, and Trenton pay tuition at out-of-district public schools or in-district or out-of-district nonpublic schools located in the State.

Status:
 Assembly: C 2R P
 Senate: I C 2R P
NJPSA opposes this legislation

Student Health

A-267/S-2426 (Turner/Vandervalk/Conners/Voss) - Authorizes parent or guardian to request use of individualized health care plan for student with diabetes and provides for the emergency administration of glucagon for certain students.

Status:
 Assembly: I C 2R P
 Senate: C 2R P
NJPSA has concerns with this legislation.

S-752/A-2092 (Codey/Turner/Vainieri Huttle/Coutinho) - Establishes measures to deter steroid use among students. The bill would make permanent the current random drug testing program for high school athletes who qualify to