

[First Reprint]

SENATE, No. 1033

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

221st LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2024 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator LINDA R. GREENSTEIN

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Senator SHIRLEY K. TURNER

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

SYNOPSIS

Requires DOH to study indoor air quality at public schools, develop list of common indoor air contaminants at public schools, and establish guidance regarding potential mitigation measures.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Senate Environment and Energy Committee on January 14, 2025, with amendments.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 1/14/2025)

1 AN ACT concerning indoor air quality in public schools and
2 supplementing Title 26 of the Revised Statutes.

3

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

6

7 1. a. As used in this section:

8 “Department” means the Department of ¹**[Environmental**
9 **Protection]** Health¹.

10 “Hazardous air pollutant” means the same as that term is defined
11 by section 2 of P.L.1954, c.212 (C.26:2C-2).

12 “Indoor air contaminant” means any substance, other than water or
13 distillates of air, which is present in a building’s internal atmosphere as
14 solid particles, liquid particles, vapors, or gases.

15 “Indoor air quality” means the quality of air inside a closed
16 building.

17 “Public school” means the same as that term is defined in
18 N.J.S.18A:1-1.

19 b. Within one year after the effective date of this act, the
20 Department of ¹**[Environmental Protection]** Health¹, acting in
21 cooperation and consultation with the ¹Department of Environmental
22 Protection,¹ Department of Education, the Rutgers Center for Green
23 Building, and any other organization deemed by the department to be
24 appropriate, shall conduct a public school indoor air quality study
25 using a representative sampling of public schools in the State. The
26 representative sampling of schools shall include:

27 (1) schools that represent diverse regions of the State and provide
28 varying levels of education to students of all ages, including at least
29 one preschool, one kindergarten, one elementary school, one middle
30 school, and one high school located in each of the northern, central,
31 and southern regions of the State; and

32 (2) schools of varying ages, including, to the extent practicable, at
33 least: one school constructed within the five year period immediately
34 preceding the effective date of this act; one school constructed not less
35 than five years, nor more than 10 years, prior to the effective date of
36 this act; one school constructed not less than 10 years, nor more than
37 15 years, prior to the effective date of this act; one school constructed
38 not less than 15 years, nor more than 25 years, prior to the effective
39 date of this act; one school constructed not less than 25 years, nor
40 more than 50 years, prior to the effective date of this act; and one
41 school constructed more than 50 years prior to the effective date of this
42 act.

43 c. In conducting the public school indoor air quality study
44 pursuant to this section, the department shall:

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:

¹Senate SEN committee amendments adopted January 14, 2025.

1 (1) identify, for each school in the representative sample, the levels
2 of carbon dioxide (CO₂), carbon monoxide (CO), nitrogen dioxide
3 (NO₂), sulfur dioxide (SO₂), volatile organic compounds (VOCs), fine
4 particulate matter (PM 2.5), hazardous air pollutants, and other indoor
5 air contaminants that are present in the indoor air at each such school,
6 and extrapolate, from the representative sampling, the total number of
7 public schools in the State where each such indoor air contaminant
8 may be present and the estimated level of each indoor air contaminant
9 at each such school in the State;

10 (2) compile a list of the most common indoor air contaminants in
11 public schools; and

12 (3) develop and publish guidance documents for public schools
13 and school districts describing the ways in which such schools may
14 take action to reduce the presence or mitigate the effects of indoor air
15 contaminants identified on the list prepared pursuant to paragraph (2)
16 of this subsection. In developing guidance documents pursuant to this
17 paragraph, the department shall consider and incorporate, as deemed
18 appropriate, any existing guidance on this issue that has been
19 published by the Department of ¹**Health** Environmental Protection¹
20 or the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

21 d. The Department of ¹**Environmental Protection** Health¹ shall
22 provide the Department of Education with a copy of the list and
23 guidance documents developed pursuant to subsection c. of this
24 section, and the Department of ¹**Environmental Protection** Health¹
25 and Department of Education shall each post a copy of the list and the
26 guidance documents in a publicly accessible location on the respective
27 department's Internet website.

28
29 2. This act shall take effect immediately.