

**February 22, 2010  
Position Statement**

**Pending Legislation to Amend N.J.S.18A:6-45, N.J.S.18A:6-46, and N.J.S.18A:6-50**

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Pending legislation proposes to amend N.J.S.18A:6-45, N.J.S.18A:6-46, and N.J.S.18A:6-50 such that membership in the New Jersey School Boards Association (“NJSBA”) is optional for New Jersey boards of education.

This legislation in no way affects the New Jersey School Boards Association Insurance Group (“the Insurance Group”). The NJSBA and the Insurance Group are two separate and distinct entities. Despite the similarity of names, the Insurance Group is a separate, statutorily authorized entity that is governed by its own Board of Trustees.

Further, **membership in the Insurance Group is in no way contingent upon membership in the NJSBA.** There is no Insurance Group policy that mandates membership in NJSBA in order for a board to be a member of the Insurance Group.

The Insurance Group has learned that a new policy has been proposed to the NJSBA Board of Directors that will require the Insurance Group to provide insurance coverage only to school districts and charter schools “in good standing” with the NJSBA. As of this date, we are not aware of the status of this proposed policy; however, the Insurance Group did not authorize and does not support this proposed policy. Simply stated, the NJSBA has no control over which districts can become members of the Insurance Group. The Insurance Group provides insurance coverage to any eligible school board that chooses to become a member. The board’s “standing” with the NJSBA is of no consequence to their membership in the Insurance Group.

We will continue to monitor this situation closely and will keep our members apprised of further developments with the pending legislation. Regardless of the outcome, the parameters of the NJSBAIG program and our members’ participation therein will not change. We remain firmly committed to our mission and the needs of our valued members.

