



New Jersey Policy Institute

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Appeals court to hear arguments in NJ school segregation lawsuit

by Mary Ann Koruth
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A New Jersey [school segregation lawsuit](#) with implications for how children are assigned to public schools is now going before an appeals court, a move that could avoid a lengthy trial.

It's a big step forward for plaintiffs Latino Action Network and the NAACP. The groups brought a legal challenge in 2018 to New Jersey's tradition of assigning children to schools in their residential ZIP code. The plaintiffs allege that residency laws are causing segregation in the state's public schools.

The case has been moving slowly through the courts, with COVID-19 pandemic delays and then a mediation effort that failed to bring the two sides to an agreement.

On July 8, Appellate Judge Heidi Currier granted the plaintiffs' request to appeal an earlier trial court decision.

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The appellate court also granted permission to a group called the New Jersey Policy Institute that has asked the state to expand its little-known interdistrict school choice program, one of several solutions offered by the plaintiffs. This group is not affiliated with the plaintiffs, and it had filed a separate request to make oral arguments in the case.

Read the full article [here](#)!

