

ASSEMBLY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 1906

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 9, 2022

The Assembly Education Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 1906, with committee amendments.

As amended, this bill permits, under certain circumstances, a school district to provide State aid directly to an individual that is providing nursing services for a nonpublic school.

Under P.L.1991, c.226 (C.18A:40-23 et seq.), a board of education is required to provide certain basic nursing services for nonpublic school students enrolled at a nonpublic school located within the district, and the board is permitted to provide certain other nursing services to the nonpublic school students. Under this bill, the State aid provided to a school district for the provision of nonpublic school nursing services will be distributed by the school district directly to the individual providing nursing services to the nonpublic school students if the following conditions are met:

(1) the nonpublic school provides to the school district all required documentation attesting to the individual's status as a registered nurse licensed by the New Jersey State Board of Nursing;

(2) the nonpublic school provides to the school district documentation of the actual hours the individual provided nursing services at the nonpublic school; and

(3) the nonpublic school, on a form developed by the Department of Education, submits to the school district an attestation that all documentation provided to the school district is valid and an agreement to assume any liability that may arise if the individual is determined not to be a registered nurse licensed by the New Jersey State Board of Nursing during the school year.

The bill also provides that the provisions of the bill will not apply to a school district that entered into an agreement for the provision of nursing services for nonpublic schools for the 2022-2023 school year prior to the effective date of the bill. The provisions of the bill will apply to a school district that renews an agreement, or enters into a new agreement, for the provision of nursing services for nonpublic schools for the 2023-2024 school year and any subsequent school year, after the effective date of the bill.

Finally, the bill requires a nonpublic school, prior to renewing or entering a new agreement with a school district for the provision of nursing services for the nonpublic school, to notify the school district that it intends to avail itself of the provisions of the bill by meeting the three conditions set forth in the bill regarding documentation and attestation.

Nothing in the bill would exempt a school district from the provisions of the “Public School Contracts Law” when entering into contracts for the provision of nonpublic school nursing services.

This bill was pre-filed for introduction in the 2022-2023 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review, which has been performed.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The committee amended the bill to clarify that nothing in the bill would exempt a school district from the provisions of the “Public School Contracts Law” when entering into agreements for the provision of nonpublic school nursing services. The committee also amended the bill to update the school years which would initially be subject to the provisions of this bill.