

SENATE COMMUNITY AND URBAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 4468

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: DECEMBER 15, 2005

The Senate Community and Urban Affairs Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 4468.

This bill would revise existing law concerning the permissible number of appointed members to certain county vocational school district boards of education. Under existing law, the board of education of the majority of county vocational school districts is composed of the county superintendent of schools and four appointed members. A county of the first class which has adopted a form of government under the "Optional County Charter Law," P.L.1972, c.154, also has the option to establish, by ordinance, a board of education consisting of seven appointed members.

The bill provides that the board of education of a county vocational school district established by a county of the first class which operates under the "Optional County Charter Law" may be comprised of six or nine appointed members in addition to the current options available to the district of four or seven appointed members. The bill also requires those appointments to be made with the advice and consent of the board of chosen freeholders, a requirement that currently applies to all other counties.

The bill would authorize counties with four appointed members on the county vocational school district board of education to increase the number of appointed members to six upon the adoption of an ordinance.

Under the bill, if a county of the first class which has a county vocational school board of education with seven members on the bill's effective date determines, by ordinance, within six months to appoint a board with nine members, one person would be appointed to serve for two years and one person would be appointed to serve for four years, which terms would begin immediately upon appointment and expire on November 1 next succeeding the completion of the terms.