

P.L.2015, CHAPTER 157, *approved November 9, 2015*
Assembly, No. 4485

1 AN ACT concerning the withholding of State school aid and
2 supplementing chapter 55 of Title 18A of the New Jersey
3 Statutes.

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

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8 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of N.J.S.18A:55-2, or any
9 other law, rule, or regulation to the contrary, the commissioner shall
10 not direct the State treasurer to withhold funds payable by the State
11 to a school district based on the participation rate on any State
12 assessment of the school district's students.

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14 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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19 This bill prohibits the Commissioner of Education from
20 withholding State school aid from a school district based on the
21 participation rate of its students on the State assessments. Recent
22 media articles indicate that the commissioner has suggested the
23 possibility of withholding State aid if a significant share of students
24 in a district do not take an assessment. This bill would prevent
25 districts from being penalized for matters beyond their control.

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30 Prohibits withholding of State school aid based on student
31 participation rate on State assessments.