

ASSEMBLY, No. 226

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman WAYNE P. DEANGELO

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblymen Giblin, Egan and Coughlin

SYNOPSIS

Establishes reward program in DOE for districts with high academic performance and low per pupil expenditures.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 **AN ACT** concerning a rewards program for high performing,
2 efficient school districts and supplementing P.L.2007, c.260.

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

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7 1. a. There is hereby established in the Department of
8 Education the Academic Achievement and Efficiency Rewards
9 Program. The purpose of the program shall be to provide rewards
10 to school districts that meet criteria for attaining success towards
11 high student academic achievement while having efficient
12 education expenditures. A school district that operates grades
13 kindergarten through 12 and meets the criteria for high student
14 academic achievement and efficient education expenditures
15 established pursuant to subsections b. and c. of this section shall
16 receive, in addition to any aid received pursuant to the provisions of
17 P.L.2007, c.260 (C.18A:7F-43 et al.) or any other law, an amount
18 equal to \$250 multiplied by the district's projected resident
19 enrollment for the budget year.

20 b. As used in this act, "high student academic achievement"
21 means that, among all students in the school district to whom a
22 State assessment was administered in the most recent year for which
23 results are available, at least 60% of the students scored in the
24 proficient or advanced proficient range in the language arts and
25 mathematics subject areas.

26 c. As used in this act, "efficient education expenditures" means
27 that, according to the Department of Education's Taxpayer's Guide
28 to Education Spending, the school district's budgetary cost per
29 pupil for the most recent year for which audited expenditure data
30 are available, is within the lowest quartile among all districts in its
31 comparison group, as categorized by enrollment, in the document.

32 d. Any aid received pursuant to this section shall not be
33 included in the calculation of a school district's stabilized aid
34 pursuant to section 5 of P.L.2007, c.260 (C.18A:7F-47).

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36 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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39 STATEMENT

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41 This bill establishes the Academic Achievement and Efficiency
42 Rewards Program in the Department of Education. Under the
43 program, a school district that operates grades kindergarten through
44 12 will receive, in addition to any aid received under the "School
45 Funding Reform Act of 2008," or any other law, \$250 per resident
46 student. A district would receive the reward if: 1) at least 60% of
47 its students who took a State assessment scored in the proficient or
48 advanced proficient range in language arts and mathematics, and 2)

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1 the district's budgetary cost per pupil, as measured in the
2 *Taxpayers' Guide to Education Spending* (formerly the
3 *Comparative Spending Guide*) is among the lowest 25% of all
4 school districts in the same enrollment grouping used in the guide.