

ASSEMBLY, No. 604

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman JOHN DIMAIO

District 23 (Hunterdon, Somerset and Warren)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblyman Peterson

SYNOPSIS

Defines a day in session for purposes of a school district's receipt of State school aid.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 **AN ACT** concerning the receipt of State school aid and amending
2 P.L.1996, c.138.

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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. Section 9 of P.L.1996, c.138 (C.18A:7F-9) is amended to
8 read as follows:

9 9. In order to receive any State aid pursuant to P.L.2007, c.260
10 (C.18A:7F-43 et al.), a school district, county vocational school
11 district, or county special services school district shall comply with
12 the rules and standards for the equalization of opportunity which
13 have been or may hereafter be prescribed by law or formulated by
14 the commissioner pursuant to law, including those implementing
15 P.L.1996, c.138 (C.18A:7F-1 et al.) and P.L.2007, c.260
16 (C.18A:7F-43 et al.) or related to the core curriculum content
17 standards required by P.L.2007, c.260 (C.18A:7F-43 et al.), and
18 shall further comply with any directive issued by the commissioner
19 pursuant to section 6 of P.L.1996, c.138 (C.18A:7F-6). The
20 commissioner is hereby authorized to withhold all or part of a
21 district's State aid for failure to comply with any rule, standard or
22 directive. No State aid shall be paid to any district **【**which has not
23 provided public school facilities**】** unless the schools of the district
24 have been in session for at least 180 days during the preceding
25 school year, but the commissioner, for good cause shown, may
26 remit the penalty.

27 For the purposes of this section, a day in session means a day on
28 which the school is open, students are under the guidance and
29 direction of a teacher engaged in the teaching process, and is not
30 less than six hours; except that the six-hour requirement shall not be
31 applicable to a school that enrolls only kindergarten students.
32 (cf: P.L.2007, c.260, s.32)

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34 2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall first be
35 applicable to the calculation of State aid for the 2015-2016 school
36 year.

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39 STATEMENT

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41 Under current law, in order to receive its State school aid, a
42 school district must be in session for at least 180 days during the
43 preceding school year. This bill defines a “day in session” as a day
44 on which the school is open, students are under the guidance and
45 direction of a teacher engaged in the teaching process, and is not

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **【thus】 in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.**

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 less than six hours. The bill specifies that the six-hour requirement
2 will not be applicable to a school that enrolls only kindergarten
3 students.

4 Under current State Board of Education regulations at
5 N.J.A.C.6A:32-8.3(b), a school day consists of not less than four
6 hours.