

ASSEMBLY, No. 3281

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 25, 2020

Sponsored by:
Assemblyman WAYNE P. DEANGELO
District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

SYNOPSIS

Creates financial rewards program in DOE for districts with high academic performance and low per pupil expenditures.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT establishing a rewards program for high performing,
2 efficient school districts and supplementing P.L.2007, c.260
3 (C.18A:7F-43 et al.).
4

5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
6 of New Jersey:
7

8 1. As used in this act:

9 “Efficient education expenditures” means that, according to the
10 Department of Education’s Taxpayer’s Guide to Education
11 Spending, the school district’s budgetary cost per pupil for the most
12 recent school year for which audited expenditure data are available,
13 is within the lowest quartile among all districts in its comparison
14 group, as categorized by enrollment, in the guide.

15 “High student academic achievement” means that, among all
16 students in the school district to whom a State assessment was
17 administered in the most recent year for which results are available,
18 at least 60 percent of the students scored in the “approaching
19 expectations,” “meeting expectations,” or “exceeding expectations”
20 ranges in each of the English language arts and mathematics subject
21 areas.
22

23 2. There is hereby established in the Department of Education
24 the Academic Achievement and Efficiency Rewards Program. The
25 purpose of the program shall be to provide rewards to school
26 districts that meet criteria for attaining success towards high student
27 academic achievement while having efficient education
28 expenditures. A school district that operates grades kindergarten
29 through 12 and meets the criteria for high student academic
30 achievement and efficient education expenditures shall receive, in
31 addition to any aid received pursuant to the provisions of P.L.2007,
32 c.260 (C.18A:7F-43 et al.) or any other law, an amount equal to
33 \$250 multiplied by the district’s projected resident enrollment for
34 the budget year.
35

36 3. This act shall take effect immediately and shall first be
37 applicable to the first full school year following the date of
38 enactment.
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40

41 STATEMENT

42

43 This bill establishes the Academic Achievement and Efficiency
44 Rewards Program in the Department of Education. Under the
45 program, a school district that operates grades kindergarten through
46 12 will receive, in addition to any aid received under the “School
47 Funding Reform Act of 2008,” or any other law, \$250 per resident
48 student. A district would receive the reward if: 1) at least 60

1 percent of its students who took a State assessment scored in the
2 “approaching expectations,” “meeting expectations,” or “exceeding
3 expectations” ranges in each of the English language arts and
4 mathematics subject areas; and 2) the district’s budgetary cost per
5 pupil, as measured in the *Taxpayers’ Guide to Education Spending*
6 (formerly the *Comparative Spending Guide*) is among the lowest 25
7 percent of all school districts in the same enrollment grouping used
8 in the guide.