

ASSEMBLY, No. 3993

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MAY 4, 2020

Sponsored by:
Assemblyman JAY WEBBER
District 26 (Essex, Morris and Passaic)

SYNOPSIS

Allows resident school districts to provide payments in-lieu-of transportation to parents of county vocational school district pupils.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 **AN ACT** concerning the transportation of county vocational school
 2 district pupils, amending P.L.1990, c.52, supplementing
 3 P.L.1982, c.146 (C.18A:54C-1 et seq.), and repealing section 6
 4 of P.L.1983, c.341.

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

8
 9 1. Section 71 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:54-20.1) is amended to
 10 read as follows:

11 71. a. The board of education of each school district or
 12 regional school district in any county in which there is a county
 13 vocational school district shall send to any of the schools of the
 14 county vocational school district each pupil who resides in the
 15 school district or regional school district and who has applied for
 16 admission to and has been accepted for attendance at any of the
 17 schools of the county vocational school district. The board of
 18 education shall pay tuition for each of these pupils to the county
 19 vocational school district pursuant to subsection c. of this section.
 20 The provisions of this section shall not apply to the board of
 21 education of a school district or regional school district maintaining
 22 a vocational school or schools pursuant to article 2 of chapter 54 of
 23 Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

24 b. The board of education of a county vocational school district
 25 shall receive pupils from districts without the county so far as their
 26 facilities may permit.

27 c. The board of education of a county vocational school district
 28 shall receive such funds as may be appropriated by the county
 29 pursuant to N.J.S.18A:54-29.2 and shall be entitled to collect and
 30 receive from the sending districts in which each pupil attending the
 31 vocational school resides, for the tuition of that pupil, except for a
 32 post-secondary vocational education pupil, a sum not to exceed the
 33 actual cost per pupil as determined for each vocational program
 34 classification, according to rules prescribed by the commissioner
 35 and approved by the State board. Whenever funds have been
 36 appropriated by the county, the county vocational school district
 37 may charge a fee in addition to tuition for any pupils who are not
 38 residents of the county. The fee shall not exceed the amount of the
 39 county's per pupil appropriation to the county vocational school
 40 district.

41 d. The tuition and nonresident fee, if any, shall be established
 42 not later than January 15 in advance of the school year by the board
 43 of education. The tuition for each program category shall be at the
 44 same rate per pupil for each sending district whether within or
 45 without the county, and 10% of the tuition amount and nonresident

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 fee, if any, shall be paid on the first of each month from September
2 to June by or on behalf of the board of education of each sending
3 district.

4 e. (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1991, c.62).

5 f. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, when
6 a pupil attends a county vocational school district and the pupil
7 lives remote from the school, then the school district of residence of
8 the pupil may, at the discretion of the resident district, either:

9 (1) provide transportation services pursuant to N.J.S.18A:39-1;

10 or

11 (2) provide the parent, guardian, or other person having legal
12 custody of the pupil with an annual payment in lieu-of
13 transportation, in the amount determined pursuant to section 2 of
14 P.L.1981, c.57 (C.18A:39-1a) for that school year.

15 (cf: P.L.1991, c.62, s.24)

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17 2. (New section) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the
18 contrary, when a pupil attends the Marine Academy of Science and
19 Technology and the pupil lives remote from the school, then the
20 school district of residence of the pupil may, at the discretion of the
21 resident district, either:

22 (1) provide transportation services pursuant to N.J.S.18A:39-1;

23 or

24 (2) provide the parent, guardian, or other person having legal
25 custody of the pupil with an annual payment in lieu-of
26 transportation, in the amount determined pursuant to section 2 of
27 P.L.1981, c.57 (C.18A:39-1a) for that school year.

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29 3. Section 6 of P.L.1983, c.341 (C.18A:54C-7) is repealed.

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31 4. This act shall take effect on July 1 of the first full school
32 year next following the date of enactment.

33 34 35 STATEMENT

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37 This bill allows a resident school district to provide annual
38 payments in-lieu-of transportation to the parents of certain county
39 vocational school district pupils.

40 Under current law, a school district is required to provide
41 transportation for any pupil who resides within the school district,
42 attends a county vocational school district, and lives more than two
43 and one-half miles from the county vocational school. Under this
44 bill, a school district would not be required to provide
45 transportation to these county vocational school district pupils.

46 The bill instead provides that when a pupil attends a county
47 vocational school district, and the pupil lives more than two and
48 one-half miles from the school, then the school district of residence

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1 may, at its discretion, either (1) provide the pupil with
2 transportation, or (2) provide the parent, guardian, or other person
3 having legal custody of the pupil with an aid-in-lieu of
4 transportation payment.

5 The provisions of this bill would also apply to pupils attending
6 the Marine Academy of Science and Technology, which is
7 administered by the Monmouth County Vocational School District.