

SENATE, No. 681

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator SAMUEL D. THOMPSON

District 12 (Burlington, Middlesex, Monmouth and Ocean)

Senator NILSA CRUZ-PEREZ

District 5 (Camden and Gloucester)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senator Turner

SYNOPSIS

Provides emergency State school aid to certain school districts located in historic communities.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 school district may result in the closure of the school building and
2 consequently the loss of that legacy.

3 Under the bill’s provisions, upon the submission of an
4 application, the Commissioner of Education will provide emergency
5 aid for the 2019-2020 through 2024-2025 school years to a school
6 district that meets the following criteria:

- 7 • The school district is located in a municipality listed on the
8 national and State registers of historic places;
- 9 • The school district is comprised of only one school building
10 that was originally built by the federal government and will
11 revert to the federal government if the school building ceases
12 to operate;
- 13 • The students enrolled in the school district demonstrate a
14 high level of academic achievement;
- 15 • The school district demonstrates that without the emergency
16 aid, the district is at risk of closing its school building, and
17 the closure of the building will have a negative impact on the
18 students, the residents of the community at large, and the
19 historic legacy of the community;
- 20 • The school district is subject to reductions in State aid under
21 P.L.2018, c.67 (C.18A:7F-67 et al.), and those reductions
22 have directly impacted the ability of the school district to
23 continue to operate the school building.

24 The commissioner will review the school district’s application
25 and may ask for any additional supporting information and
26 documentation that he deems necessary. If the application and
27 information adequately demonstrates that the school district meets
28 the criteria, the commissioner will provide emergency aid in an
29 amount equal to the school district’s reduction in State aid for that
30 budget year.

31 The provision of emergency aid under this bill addresses the fact
32 that some school districts face unique circumstances and that it is in
33 the best interests of the State to recognize and address those
34 circumstances.