

# ASSEMBLY, No. 2572

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 217th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 8, 2016

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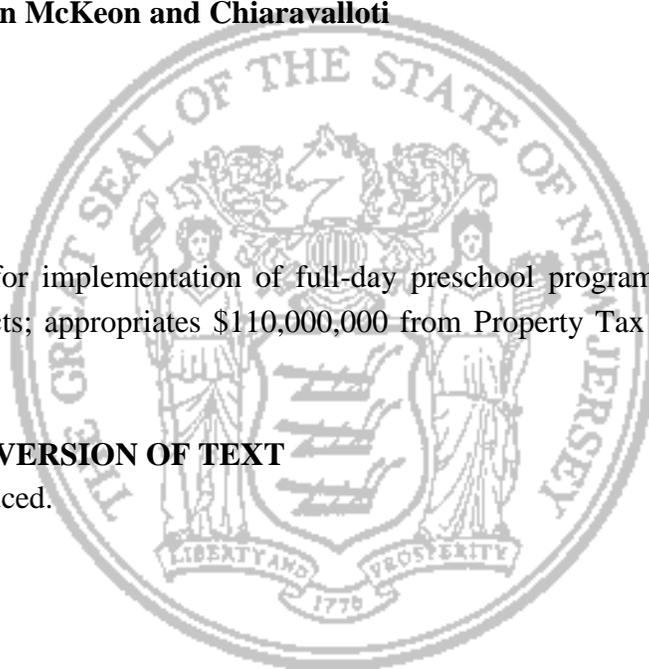
**Assemblymen McKeon and Chiaravalloti**

**SYNOPSIS**

Provides for implementation of full-day preschool programs in additional school districts; appropriates \$110,000,000 from Property Tax Relief Fund to DOE.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 10/28/2016)

1 AN ACT concerning the implementation of full-day preschool  
2 programs, supplementing P.L.2007, c.260 (C.18A:7F-43 et al.),  
3 and making an appropriation.  
4

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

8 1. a. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 12 of P.L.2007,  
9 c.260 (C.18A:7F-54) to the contrary, a school district that is  
10 required to provide free access to full-day preschool to all three-  
11 and four-year old pupils pursuant to subsection a. of section 12 of  
12 P.L.2007, c.260 (C.18A:7F-54), shall submit to the Commissioner  
13 of Education, no later than September 1 of the second full school  
14 year following the effective date of this act, a five-year plan for the  
15 full implementation of full-day preschool for all three- and four-  
16 year olds. The commissioner shall begin to accept, review, and  
17 approve plans immediately following the effective date of this act,  
18 and a school district shall be authorized to begin implementation of  
19 full-day preschool in the first full school year following the  
20 commissioner's approval of the district's five-year plan. A school  
21 district shall annually update the five-year plan based on the actual  
22 implementation experience and shall revise its pupil projections in  
23 accordance with that experience.

24 b. A school district that provides free access to full-day  
25 preschool pursuant to subsection a. of this section shall receive  
26 preschool education aid in accordance with the provisions of  
27 subsection a. of section 12 of P.L.2007, c.260 (C.18A:7F-54),  
28 except that the commissioner shall reduce the amount of preschool  
29 education aid allotted to a school district by the amount of any  
30 federal funding that the school district receives in that school year  
31 for the purpose of operating a preschool program.

32 c. The provisions of this section shall not be applicable to an  
33 SDA district, as defined pursuant to the provisions of section 3 of  
34 P.L.2000, c.72 (C.18A:7G-3), or a school district that demonstrated  
35 its capacity to offer a full-day three- or four-year old program, or a  
36 full-day three- and four-year old program, in the 2008-2009 school  
37 year pursuant to the provisions of paragraph (3) of subsection c. of  
38 section 12 of P.L.2007, c.260 (C.18A:7F-54).

39 d. As used in this section, "full implementation" means serving  
40 90% of three- and four-year old pupils in accordance with the  
41 preschool quality standards adopted by the commissioner.  
42

43 2. There is appropriated from the Property Tax Relief Fund to  
44 the Department of Education the sum of \$110,000,000 for the  
45 purpose of effectuating the provisions of this act. Any  
46 appropriations that are not expended at the end of the fiscal year  
47 shall be available to be used for the same purpose in subsequent  
48 fiscal years.

1       3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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6       Under the provisions of the “School Funding Reform Act of  
7 2008” (SFRA), P.L.2007, c.260 (C.18A:7F-43 et al.), school  
8 districts classified in District Factor Groups (DFG) A or B, or  
9 districts classified in DFG CD having a concentration of at-risk  
10 students of at least 40 percent, were required to begin offering  
11 access to full-day preschool for all three- and four-year old children  
12 residing in the district. However, State funding has not been  
13 provided to allow for this expansion, and currently, only 35 school  
14 districts offer such preschool access.

15       This bill provides for the expansion of full-day preschool  
16 programs for three- and four-year olds in additional communities.  
17 Any school district that was required to provide universal access to  
18 full-day preschool under the SFRA would be required to submit to  
19 the Commissioner of Education, within two years of the bill’s  
20 effective date, a five-year plan for the full implementation of a full-  
21 day preschool program. The commissioner may accept, review, and  
22 approve a plan submitted at any point following the bill’s effective  
23 date, and a school district would be authorized to begin  
24 implementation in the first full school year beginning after  
25 receiving the commissioner’s approval. A school district that  
26 provides access to full-day preschool under this bill would receive  
27 preschool education aid as calculated pursuant to the SFRA. The  
28 commissioner would reduce a district’s allotment of preschool  
29 education aid by the amount of any federal funding that the district  
30 received for the purpose of operating a preschool program.

31       The bill appropriates \$110 million for the purpose of effectuating  
32 the bill’s provisions. Any funding that is not expended at the end of  
33 the fiscal year would carry forward to the subsequent fiscal years to  
34 be used for the same purpose.