[Second Reprint] ASSEMBLY, No. 5366

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 23, 2021

Sponsored by: Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE District 37 (Bergen) Assemblywoman PAMELA R. LAMPITT District 6 (Burlington and Camden) Assemblyman JOHN F. MCKEON District 27 (Essex and Morris)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblyman Benson, Assemblywoman Jasey, Assemblymen Stanley, DePhillips, Wimberly, Caputo, Holley, Assemblywoman N.Munoz, Assemblymen Bergen, Scharfenberger, Webber, Zwicker, Assemblywomen Stanfield, Quijano, Carter, Assemblyman Karabinchak, Assemblywomen Dunn and Tucker

SYNOPSIS

Requires boards of education to provide special education and related services to certain students exceeding age of eligibility for special education and related services.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Assembly Appropriations Committee on May 18, 2021,



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/20/2021)

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AN ACT concerning education and related services for students with
 disabilities and supplementing chapter 46 of Title 18A of the
 New Jersey Statutes.

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

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8 1. a. Notwithstanding the provisions of N.J.S.18A:46-6, 9 N.J.S.18A:46-8, or of any other law, rule, or regulation concerning 10 the age of eligibility for special education and related services to the 11 contrary, a board of education shall, in the 2021-2022 school year, 12 provide special education and related services contained in an 13 individualized education program to a student with disabilities who attains the age of 21 during the 2020-2021 school year, provided 14 15 that the parent of the student '[in conjunction with] and^1 the individualized education program team ¹[determines] <u>determine</u>¹ 16 that the student requires ¹additional or compensatory¹ special 17 education and related services¹, including transition services,¹ 18 during the 2021-2022 school year. A student receiving special 19 education and related services pursuant to this subsection shall not 20 be eligible to receive such education and services beyond June 30, 21 2022, unless otherwise provided in a student's individualized 22 education program ¹or as ordered by a hearing officer, complaint 23 investigation, or court of competent jurisdiction¹. 24

25 b. Notwithstanding the provisions of N.J.S.18A:46-6, 26 N.J.S.18A:46-8, or of any other law, rule, or regulation concerning 27 the age of eligibility for special education and related services to the 28 contrary, a board of education shall, in the 2022-2023 school year, 29 provide special education and related services contained in an 30 individualized education program to a student with disabilities who 31 attains the age of 21 during the 2021-2022 school year, provided 32 that the parent of the student '[in conjunction with] and' the individualized education program team ¹[determines] determine¹ 33 that the student requires ¹additional or compensatory¹ special 34 education and related services¹, including transition services,¹ 35 36 during the 2022-2023 school year. A student receiving special education and related services pursuant to this subsection shall not 37 38 be eligible to receive such education and services beyond June 30, 39 2023, unless otherwise provided in a student's individualized 40 education program ¹or as ordered by a hearing officer, complaint investigation, or court of competent jurisdiction¹. 41

42 c. ¹Notwithstanding the provisions of N.J.S.18A:46-6,
43 N.J.S.18A:46-8, or of any other law, rule, or regulation concerning
44 the age of eligibility for special education and related services to the

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 <u>thus</u> is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Assembly AED committee amendments adopted May 12, 2021. ²Assembly AAP committee amendments adopted May 18, 2021.

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1 contrary, a board of education shall, in the 2023-2024 school year, 2 provide special education and related services contained in an 3 individualized education program to a student with disabilities who 4 attains the age of 21 during the 2022-2023 school year, provided 5 that the parent of the student and the individualized education 6 program team determine that the student requires additional or 7 compensatory special education and related services, including 8 transition services, during the 2023-2024 school year. A student 9 receiving special education and related services pursuant to this 10 subsection shall not be eligible to receive such education and services beyond June 30, 2024, unless otherwise provided in a 11 12 student's individualized education program or as ordered by a 13 hearing officer, complaint investigation, or court of competent 14 jurisdiction. 15 $\underline{d.}^{1}$ A student receiving special education and related services $\frac{1}{2}$ including transition services,¹ pursuant to this section shall be 16 afforded the same rights, privileges, and remedies provided to 17 students with disabilities pursuant to State law, State Board of 18 19 Education regulations concerning special education, and the federal 20 "Individuals with Disabilities Education Act," 20 U.S.C. s.1400 et 21 seq¹. Any disputes that arise with respect to the provision or nature 22 of services provided to a student with disabilities in the additional 23 year as provided under subsections a., b., and c. of this section may 24 be addressed, as determined by the parent of the student with 25 disabilities, by either: 26 (1) mediation; 27 (2) a written request for a complaint investigation submitted to 28 the Director of the Office of Special Education Policy and Dispute 29 Resolution in the Department of Education; or 30 (3) a special education due process hearing pursuant to the 31 provisions of the "Individuals with Disabilities Education Act," 20 32 U.S.C. s.1400 et seq., chapter 46 of Title 18A of the New Jersey 33 Statutes, or regulations promulgated thereto. 34 e. (1) The special education and related services, including 35 transition services, provided to students with disabilities pursuant to the provisions of this section shall, to the extent permitted by 36 37 federal law, be paid for from the monies received by the State or a 38 school district under the federal "Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and 39 Economic Security (CARES) Act," Pub.L.116-136, the federal 40 "Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act, 2021," Pub.L.116-260, the federal "American 41 42 Rescue Plan (ARP) Act," Pub.L.117-2, or any other federal funding 43 provided to address the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on 44 elementary and secondary schools as it becomes available. 45 (2) To the extent that the federal funds described in paragraph (1) of this subsection do not cover the costs borne by school 46 47 districts to provide the special education and related services, 48 including transition services, to students with disabilities pursuant

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1 to the provisions of this section, the State shall appropriate funds as 2 necessary from the Property Tax Relief Fund to reimburse school 3 districts for these costs. 4 (3) The special education and related services funded pursuant 5 to the provisions of this subsection may include, but are not limited 6 to, the additional staff, programs, and facilities deemed necessary 7 by school districts to provide the special education and related 8 services, including transition services, required under this section¹. ¹[d.] f.¹ ²Notwithstanding the provisions of chapter 26 of Title 9 10 14 of the New Jersey Administrative Code, N.J.A.C.6A:14-4.9, or 11 of any other law, rule, or regulation establishing educational facility 12 planning standards, temporary facility standards, or age range and 13 group size requirements for approved private schools for students 14 with disabilities to the contrary, for the 2021-2022 school year 15 through the 2023-2024 school year, the Department of Education 16 shall permit an approved private school for students with 17 disabilities to temporarily utilize non-qualifying spaces on school 18 property for instruction and educational purposes in order to serve 19 any additional students receiving special education and related 20 services, including transition services, pursuant to the provisions of 21 this section, if the department and the applicable county office of 22 education determine that the school is able to provide suitable 23 accommodations in those spaces for the additional students. 24 g. Notwithstanding the provisions of N.J.S.18A:46-21, 25 N.J.A.C.6A:23A-18.3, or of any other law, rule, or regulation 26 establishing per diem tuition rates at approved private schools for 27 students with disabilities to the contrary, the Department of Education shall, for the 2021-2022 school year through the 2025-28 29 2026 school year, set the maximum tentative tuition rate of each 30 approved private school for students with disabilities at the 31 maximum tentative tuition rate set for the 2020-2021 school year if, 32 during the 2021-2022 school year through the 2023-2024 school 33 year, the school exceeds the total number of students at the 34 approved facility in the 2020-2021 school year. $\underline{h.}^{2}$ As used in this section, "parent" means the natural or 35 36 adoptive parent, the legal guardian, resource family parent when 37 willing to so serve, a surrogate parent, or a person acting in the 38 place of a parent, such as a grandparent or stepparent with whom 39 the student lives or a person legally responsible for the student's 40 welfare. Parent shall also include an adult student who has attained 41 the age of 18, who is not under legal guardianship, and who is 42 entitled to receive special education and related services. 43 44 2. This act shall take effect immediately.