

ASSEMBLY, No. 258

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1996 SESSION

By Assemblymen GARCIA and ROMANO

1 AN ACT to amend "AN ACT making appropriations for the support of  
2 the State Government and the several public purposes for the fiscal  
3 year ending June 30, 1996 and regulating the disbursement  
4 thereof," approved June 30, 1995 (P.L.1995, c.164).

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

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9 1. Section 1 of P.L.1995, c.164, the fiscal year 1996 annual  
10 appropriations act, on page 145, at lines 7 through 23, is amended to  
11 read as follows:

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**STATE AID**

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**34 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

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30 Educational, Cultural and Intellectual Development

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31 Direct Educational Services and Assistance--State Aid

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18 Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, Foundation Aid for  
19 special needs districts is increased by \$100,000,000. This allocation  
20 shall be determined in two steps, as follows. Step 1: funds shall be  
21 allocated to ensure that the local levy budget per pupil in each such  
22 district be at a minimum 78.24 percent of the per pupil average  
23 local levy budget of districts in District Factor Groups "I" and "J"  
24 for 1995-96. For purposes of estimating the average per pupil local  
25 levy budget in District Factor Groups "I" and "J," the average local  
26 levy budget per pupil in 1994-95 shall be increased by 2.5 percent.  
27 Step 2: Subsequent to the preceding calculation, the remaining  
28 funds shall be allocated in proportion to their relative shares of the  
29 remaining cumulative parity gap. The remaining cumulative parity  
30 gap shall be defined as the difference between the 1994-95 local  
31 levy budget of districts in District Factor Groups "I" and "J"  
32 increased by 2.5 percent and the 1994-95 local levy budgets of

**EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and intended to be omitted in the law.**

**Matter underlined thus is new matter.**

1 special needs districts adjusted by any increase required to establish  
 2 the 78.24 percent minimum described above. The minimum required  
 3 general fund tax levy for each special needs district in 1995-96 shall  
 4 not be less than its 1994-95 general fund tax levy, except that a  
 5 special needs school district, whose resident enrollment on October  
 6 15, 1994 is less than the resident enrollment on October 15, 1993  
 7 and whose total general current expense budget is comprised of less  
 8 than 35 percent state aid, may reduce its general fund tax levy by  
 9 an amount not exceeding \$500,000.

10 (cf: P.L.1995, c.164, s.1)

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 12 2. Section 1 of P.L.1995, c.164, the fiscal year 1996 annual  
 13 appropriations act, on page 176, at lines 17 through 33, is amended to  
 14 read as follows:

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 16 **PROPERTY TAX RELIEF FUND**

17 **STATE AID**

18 **34 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

19 30 Educational, Cultural and Intellectual Development

20 31 Direct Educational Services and Assistance--State Aid

21  
 22 Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, Foundation Aid for  
 23 special needs districts is increased by \$100,000,000. This allocation  
 24 shall be determined in two steps, as follows. Step 1: funds shall be  
 25 allocated to ensure that the local levy budget per pupil in each such  
 26 district be at a minimum 78.24 percent of the per pupil average  
 27 local levy budget of districts in District Factor Groups "I" and "J"  
 28 for 1995-96. For purposes of estimating the average per pupil local  
 29 levy budget in District Factor Groups "I" and "J," the average local  
 30 levy budget per pupil in 1994-95 shall be increased by 2.5 percent.  
 31 Step 2: Subsequent to the preceding calculation, the remaining  
 32 funds shall be allocated in proportion to their relative shares of the  
 33 remaining cumulative parity gap. The remaining cumulative parity  
 34 gap shall be defined as the difference between the 1994-95 local  
 35 levy budget of districts in District Factor Groups "I" and "J"  
 36 increased by 2.5 percent and the 1994-95 local levy budgets of  
 37 special needs districts adjusted by any increase required to establish  
 38 the 78.24 percent minimum described above. The minimum required  
 39 general fund tax levy for each special needs district in 1995-96 shall  
 40 not be less than its 1994-95 general fund tax levy, except that a  
 41 special needs school district, whose resident enrollment on October  
 42 15, 1994 is less than the resident enrollment on October 15, 1993  
 43 and whose total general current expense budget is comprised of less  
 44 than 35 percent state aid, may reduce its general fund tax levy by  
 45 an amount not exceeding \$500,000.

46 (cf: P.L.1995, c.164, s.1)

1       3. This act shall take effect immediately and if enacted after July 1,  
2 1995, shall be retroactive to that date.

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STATEMENT

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7       This bill amends P.L.1995, c.164, the fiscal year 1996 annual  
8 appropriations act, allow certain special needs school districts to  
9 reduce their general fund tax levy by an amount not exceeding  
10 \$500,000. A special needs district would qualify if it has a lower  
11 resident enrollment in the 1995-96 school year than in the 1994-95  
12 school year, and if it has a total school budget comprised of less than  
13 35 percent State aid.

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18       Amends FY 1995 annual appropriations act to allow certain special  
19 needs school districts to reduce their general fund tax levy.