

ASSEMBLY, No. 1821

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED MARCH 28, 1996

By Assemblyman **CORODEMUS**

1 AN ACT concerning the transportation of school pupils and amending
2 N.J.S.18A:39-3.

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

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7 1. N.J.S.18A:39-3 is amended to read as follows:

8 18A:39-3. a. No contract for the transportation of pupils to and
9 from school shall be made, when the amount to be paid during the
10 school year for such transportation shall exceed \$7,500.00 or the
11 amount determined pursuant to subsection b. of this section, and have
12 the approval of the county superintendent of schools, unless the board
13 of education making such contract shall have first publicly advertised
14 for bids therefor in a newspaper published in the district or, if no
15 newspaper is published therein, in a newspaper circulating in the
16 district, once, at least 10 days prior to the date fixed for receiving
17 proposals for such transportation, and shall have awarded the contract
18 to the lowest responsible bidder.

19 Nothing in this chapter shall require the advertisement and letting
20 on proposals or bids of annual extensions, approved by the county
21 superintendent, of any contract for transportation entered into through
22 competitive bidding when--

23 (1) Such annual extensions impose no additional cost upon the
24 board of education, regardless of the fact that the route description has
25 changed; or

26 (2) The increase in the original contractual amount as a result of
27 such extensions does not exceed 30% thereof, regardless of the fact
28 that the route description has changed or an aide has been added or
29 removed; or

30 (3) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1982, c.74.)

31 (4) The increase in the original contractual amount as a result of an
32 extension exceeds 30% thereof, but the following apply to the
33 extensions:

34 (a) The increase is directly attributable to a route change to

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 accommodate new student riders or safety concerns; and

2 (b) The school destination remains unchanged from the original
3 contract.

4 Any such extension as described in this paragraph shall be approved
5 by the county superintendent of schools and shall be bid for the next
6 school year; or

7 (5) The increase in the original contractual amount as a result of an
8 extension exceeds 30% thereof, regardless of the fact that the route
9 description has changed or an aide has been added or removed, but the
10 annual extension does not exceed the direct proportion of the annual
11 rise or fall of the Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers in the
12 New York City and the Philadelphia areas as reported by the United
13 States Department of Labor. The Commissioner of Education shall
14 disseminate to local boards of education the percentage of the annual
15 rise or fall of the Consumer Price Index. If a board of education
16 wishes to extend a contract with an increase, this percentage shall be
17 applied to the contractual amount of the current school year to
18 determine the maximum contractual amount for the next school year
19 for contracts to which this paragraph applies.

20 Nothing in this chapter shall require the immediate bid of any
21 contract renewal for the remainder of a school year in which the only
22 change, in addition to route description, is the bus type. However, any
23 such extension shall be approved by the county superintendent of
24 schools and shall be bid for the next school year.

25 b. The Governor, in consultation with the Department of the
26 Treasury, shall, no later than March 1 of each odd-numbered year,
27 adjust the threshold amount set forth in subsection a. of this section,
28 or subsequent to 1985 the threshold amount resulting from any
29 adjustment under this subsection or section 17 of P.L.1985. c.469, in
30 direct proportion to the rise or fall of the Consumer Price Index for all
31 urban consumers in the New York City and the Philadelphia areas as
32 reported by the United States Department of Labor. The Governor
33 shall, no later than June 1 of each odd-numbered year, notify all local
34 school districts of the adjustment. The adjustment shall become
35 effective on July 1 of each odd-numbered year.

36 (P.L.1991, c.316, s. 1)

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38 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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43 This bill amends current law which authorizes boards of education
44 to award annual extensions of transportation contracts without public
45 bidding under certain circumstances. The bill provides that if an
46 annual extension of a contract results in the total contract amount

1 exceeding 130% of the original contract amount, then the extension
2 may be awarded without public bidding provided that the extension
3 does not exceed the proportion of the rise or fall of the Consumer
4 Price Index. The Commissioner of Education would be required to
5 disseminate to local boards of education information on the percentage
6 of the annual rise or fall in the Consumer Price Index.

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12 Permits school board to continue contract for pupil transportation
under certain conditions.

WITHDRAWN