

ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION No. 64

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED MARCH 4, 1996

By Assemblymen GARRETT and GREGG

1 AN ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION urging the President and the Congress of the
2 United States to eliminate the cuts in federal impact aid to school districts
3 contained in the FY 1995 Rescissions Bill.

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5 BE IT RESOLVED by the General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

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7 WHEREAS, The FY 1995 Rescissions Bill, HR 1158, passed the House of
8 Representatives on March 16, 1995 and the Senate on April 6, 1995 and
9 a conference on the bill between the Houses has been requested by the
10 Senate; and

11 WHEREAS, The FY 1995 Rescissions Bill in its current form includes
12 proposed cuts in federal impact aid to school districts which in New Jersey
13 means that school districts might lose in excess of \$16 million of such aid
14 in the current and succeeding school years; and

15 WHEREAS, Federal impact aid has historically been provided to school
16 districts to compensate communities for the loss of tax revenue which
17 results from the presence of non-taxable federally owned land within those
18 communities; and

19 WHEREAS, In some New Jersey communities, especially geographically
20 smaller communities, the amount of federally owned land which has been
21 removed from the community's tax rolls represents a significant proportion
22 of the total amount of property within that community and the fact that the
23 value of that property has increased significantly since it was first acquired
24 by the federal government means that the amount of tax revenue which the
25 community is losing is also increasing; and

26 WHEREAS, A community's limited ability to raise revenue impacts upon its
27 ability to provide a quality education to students attending the public school
28 district within its borders; and

29 WHEREAS, Such school districts have relied upon the receipt of federal impact
30 aid in structuring their budgets and for some districts the loss of federal
31 impact aid will have a disastrous effect on those budgets and will
32 necessitate either a significant increase in local taxes or a drastic cutback
33 in educational programs and services; and

34 WHEREAS, The federal government must recognize its obligation to honor the
35 agreement which it made with local communities to compensate them for

1 the presence of federal land and facilities within their borders and must
2 continue to provide the federal impact aid which assists school districts
3 located within communities with limited tax raising ability to provide
4 adequate educational services; now, therefore,

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6 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the General Assembly of the State of New
7 Jersey:

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9 1. The President and Congress of the United States are urged to eliminate
10 the cuts in federal impact aid included within the FY 1995 Rescissions Bill, HR
11 1158, and to honor the federal government's obligation to communities with
12 federal property and facilities within their borders through the continuation of
13 impact aid funding to local school districts.

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15 2. Copies of this resolution, signed by the Speaker of the General
16 Assembly and attested by the Clerk thereof, shall be transmitted to the
17 President and Vice-President of the United States, the Majority and Minority
18 Leaders of the United States Senate, the Speaker and the Minority Leader of
19 the House of Representatives, and every member of Congress elected from
20 this State.

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23 STATEMENT

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25 This resolution urges the President and Congress of the United States to
26 eliminate the cuts in federal impact aid to school districts included within the
27 FY 1995 Rescissions Bill, HR 1158.

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32 Urges President and Congress to eliminate cuts in federal impact aid to school
33 districts contained in the FY 1995 Rescissions Bill.