

SENATE, No. 780

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 15, 1996

By Senators KYRILLOS and PALAIA

1 AN ACT concerning the transportation of school pupils and
2 supplementing chapter 39 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

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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. a. The Commissioner of Education shall identify and publish a
8 list of local school boards of education, educational services
9 commissions, and any other established agencies providing cooperative
10 transportation services.

11 b. Any school district responsible for the transportation of pupils
12 to and from a school, other than a local district school, pursuant to
13 N.J.S.18A:39-1 shall utilize one of the agencies identified by the
14 commissioner for the transportation of the pupils, except when the
15 local district can provide transportation at a lower cost than those
16 agencies.

17 c. Any school district which has in the prior year provided
18 payments in lieu of transportation for any nonpublic school pupil
19 pursuant to N.J.S.18A:39-1 shall attempt to provide transportation
20 through an agency identified by the commissioner prior to determining
21 to pay aid in lieu of transportation. If the costs to provide
22 transportation by the agency identified by the commissioner are less
23 than the in-lieu-of payments, the agency shall provide transportation.

24 d. The county superintendents shall assist local boards of education
25 in coordinating the calendars and schedules of the public schools to
26 facilitate the coordination of transportation of pupils to and from
27 school in their respective county.

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29 2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall first apply to the
30 1996-1997 school year.

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STATEMENT

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35 This bill requires the Commissioner of Education to identify and
36 publish a list of local boards of education, educational services
37 commissions, and any other established agencies providing cooperative

1 transportation services. Any school district responsible for the
2 transportation of pupils to and from a school, other than a local
3 district school, would utilize one of the agencies identified by the
4 commissioner for the transportation of the pupils, except when the
5 local district can provide transportation at a lower cost than those
6 agencies.

7 Under the bill, any school district which has in the prior year
8 provided payments in lieu of transportation for any nonpublic school
9 pupil would attempt to provide transportation through an agency
10 identified by the commissioner prior to determining to pay aid in lieu
11 of transportation. If the costs to provide transportation by the agency
12 identified by the commissioner are less than the in-lieu-of payments,
13 the agency would provide transportation.

14 The county superintendents are required to assist local boards of
15 education in coordinating the calendars and schedules of the public
16 schools to facilitate the coordination of pupil transportation in a
17 county.

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22 Provides for development of regionalized school pupil transportation.