

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 36

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED JANUARY 29, 1996

By Senator BASSANO

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION proposing to amend Article VIII, Section IV,
2 paragraph 1 of the Constitution of the State of New Jersey.

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4 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Senate of the State of New Jersey (the General
5 Assembly concurring):

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7 1. The following proposed amendment to the Constitution of the State of
8 New Jersey is agreed to:

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10 PROPOSED AMENDMENT

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12 Amend Article VIII, Section IV, paragraph 1, to read as follows:

13 1. The Legislature shall provide for the maintenance and support of a
14 thorough and efficient system of free public schools for the instruction of all the
15 children in the State between the ages of five and 18 years. Maintenance and
16 support shall be provided through the enactment, from time to time, of laws
17 prescribing the components of a thorough and efficient system of free schools.
18 These laws shall also provide for the funding of a system of free public schools
19 in the manner and to the extent the Legislature determines to be appropriate,
20 including, but not limited to, the amount of funds to be provided by the State
21 and by the local school districts, the purposes for which these funds are to be
22 expended, the formulas pursuant to which these funds are to be allocated, and
23 the manner and means by which these funds are to be raised; but nothing
24 herein contained shall be construed as requiring any minimum or establishing
25 any maximum amount of funds to be pvided by the State, or in any way
26 restricting, limiting, or otherwise affecting the right of the Legislature to regulate
27 the funding of a thorough and efficient system of free public schools in the
28 manner and to the extent the Legislature determines to be appropriate.

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30 2. When this proposed amendment to the Constitution is finally agreed to,
31 pursuant to Article IX, paragraph 1 of the Constitution, it shall be submitted
32 to the people at the next general election occurring more than three months

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 thus is new matter.

1 after the final agreement and shall be published at least once in at least one
 2 newspaper of each county designated by the President of the Senate and the
 3 Speaker of the General Assembly and the Secretary of State, not less than
 4 three months prior to the general election.

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 6 3. This proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be submitted to the
 7 people at the election in the following manner and form:

8 There shall be printed on each official ballot to be used at the general
 9 election, the following:

10 a. In every municipality in which voting machines are not used, a legend
 11 which shall immediately precede the question, as follows:

12 If you favor the proposition printed below make a cross (x), plus (+) or
 13 check (%) in the square opposite the word "Yes."

14 If you are opposed thereto make a cross (x), plus (+) or check (%) in the
 15 square opposite the word "No."

16 b. In every municipality the following question:

	<p>17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35</p> <p>YES</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">THOROUGH AND EFFICIENT EDUCATION LAWS</p> <p>Shall the amendment of Article VIII, Section IV, paragraph 1 of the Constitution of the State of New Jersey, providing that the maintenance and support of a thorough and efficient system of free public schools shall be provided through the enactment, from time to time, of laws prescribing the components of the system, and providing that nothing shall be construed as requiring any minimum or establishing any maximum amount of funds to be provided by the State, or as in any way restricting, limiting, or otherwise affecting the right of the Legislature to regulate the funding of a thorough and efficient system of free public schools in the manner and to the extent the Legislature determines to be appropriate, be approved?</p>
	<p>36 37 38 39 40 41</p> <p>NO</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">INTERPRETIVE STATEMENT</p> <p>This constitutional amendment describes the manner in which the Legislature shall provide for the maintenance and support of a thorough and efficient system of free public schools.</p>

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STATEMENT

This proposed amendment would require the enactment of laws prescribing the components of a thorough and efficient system of free public schools. While these laws would also be required to provide for the funding of a system of free public schools, this proposed amendment specifies that nothing herein contained shall be construed as requiring any minimum or establishing any maximum amount of funds to be provided by the State, or as in any way restricting, limiting, or otherwise affecting the right of the Legislature to regulate the funding of a thorough and efficient system of free public schools in the manner and to the extent the Legislature determines to be appropriate.

Proposes an amendment to the Constitution to describe the manner in which the Legislature shall provide for the maintenance and support of a thorough and efficient system of free public schools.