

ASSEMBLY, No. 1762

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
209th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2000 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman DAVID W. WOLFE

District 10 (Monmouth and Ocean)

SYNOPSIS

Permits aid to nonpublic schools for electronic textbooks.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 AN ACT concerning State aid to pupils in nonpublic schools and
2 amending P.L.1974, c.79.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6
7 1. Section 2 of P.L.1974, c.79 (C.18A:58-37.2) is amended to read
8 as follows:

9 2. As used in this act:

10 a. "Commissioner" means the State Commissioner of Education.

11 b. "Nonpublic school" means an elementary or secondary school
12 within the State, other than a public school, offering education for
13 grades kindergarten through 12, or any combination of them, wherein
14 any child may legally fulfill compulsory school attendance
15 requirements and which complies with the requirements of Title VI of
16 the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L.88-352).

17 c. "Textbook" means books, workbooks or manuals, whether
18 bound or in looseleaf form, or electronic textbooks, including but not
19 limited to, computer software, computer-assisted instruction,
20 interactive videodisk, and other computer courseware and magnetic
21 media, intended as a principal source of study material for a given
22 class or group of students, a copy of which is available for the
23 individual use of each pupil in such class or group. Computer
24 software shall be prepared educational programs which are subject-
25 oriented and for student instruction.

26 d. "Student" means any child who is a resident of the State and
27 who is enrolled as a full-time pupil in a public or nonpublic school in
28 grades kindergarten through 12. A child who boards at a school but
29 whose parents do not maintain a residence in this State shall not be
30 deemed to be a resident of the State within the meaning of this act.
31 (cf: P.L.1974, c.79, s.2)

32
33 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

34
35 STATEMENT

36
37 Under current law the board of education in each school district in
38 the State in which a nonpublic school is located has the power and
39 duty to purchase and to loan textbooks to all students attending the
40 nonpublic school. This bill would expand the definition of "textbook"
41 to include electronic textbooks including, but not limited to, computer
42 software, computer-assisted instruction, interactive videodisk, and
43 other computer courseware and magnetic media.

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.

ASSEMBLY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 1762

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: FEBRUARY 7, 2000

The Assembly Education Committee favorably reports Assembly Bill No. 1762.

Under current law the board of education in each school district in the State in which a nonpublic school is located has the power and duty to purchase and to loan textbooks to all students attending the nonpublic school. This bill would expand the definition of "textbook" to include electronic textbooks including, but not limited to, computer software, computer-assisted instruction, interactive videodisk, and other computer courseware and magnetic media.

This bill was pre-filed for introduction in the 2000 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review, which has been performed.

ASSEMBLY, No. 1762

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
209th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2000 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman DAVID W. WOLFE
District 10 (Monmouth and Ocean)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblymen Connors, Gregg, Suliga, Talarico, Senators Palaia, Allen,
Kyrillos, Robertson and Inverso

SYNOPSIS

Permits aid to nonpublic schools for electronic textbooks.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Assembly Education Committee with technical review.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 2/29/2000)

A1762 WOLFE

2

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15 requirements and which complies with the requirements of Title VI of
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22 class or group of students, a copy of which is available for the
23 individual use of each pupil in such class or group. Computer
24 software shall be prepared educational programs which are subject-
25 oriented and for student instruction.

26 d. "Student" means any child who is a resident of the State and
27 who is enrolled as a full-time pupil in a public or nonpublic school in
28 grades kindergarten through 12. A child who boards at a school but
29 whose parents do not maintain a residence in this State shall not be
30 deemed to be a resident of the State within the meaning of this act.
31 (cf: P.L.1974, c.79, s.2)

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Matter underlined thus is new matter.

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE
ASSEMBLY, No. 1762
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
209th LEGISLATURE

DATED: MARCH 23, 2000

SUMMARY

Synopsis: Permits aid to nonpublic schools for electronic textbooks.
Type of Impact: No additional State or local funding requirements.
Agencies Affected: Department of Education/local boards of education

Office of Legislative Services Estimate

Fiscal Impact	<u>Year 1</u>	<u>Year 2</u>	<u>Year 3</u>
State Cost	No cost (see discussion)	No cost (see discussion)	No cost (see discussion)
State Revenue			
Local Cost	No cost (see discussion)	No cost (see discussion)	No cost (see discussion)

- ! This bill expands the types of instructional materials on which aid currently received by local school districts under the nonpublic textbook aid program may be expended, to include electronic instructional materials.
- ! The bill does not impose any additional funding requirements on the State but only authorizes the expenditure of the funds which are appropriated under this program on these additional materials.

BILL DESCRIPTION

Assembly Bill No. 1762 of 2000 would expand the definition of "textbook" to include electronic textbooks, including but not limited to, computer software, computer-assisted instruction, interactive videodisk, and other computer courseware and magnetic media. Under current law the board of education in each school district in the State in which a nonpublic school is located has the power and duty to purchase and to loan textbooks to all students attending the nonpublic school.

FISCAL ANALYSIS***EXECUTIVE BRANCH***

None received

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

The Office of Legislative Services notes that this bill will not impose any additional funding requirements on the State, but rather expands the types of instructional materials on which aid currently received under the nonpublic textbook aid program may be expended. P.L.1974, c.79 (C.18A:58-37.1 et seq.) provides that the per pupil amount of nonpublic textbook aid in any budget year shall not exceed the State average public school per pupil amount budgeted for textbooks in the prebudget year. In FY 2000, \$8,973,000 is appropriated for the nonpublic textbook aid program, which represents \$44.74 per nonpublic school pupil. According to the Department of Education, this represents a prorated amount of the approximately \$60 per pupil which is authorized under the formula contained in P.L.1974, c.79 (C.18A:58-37.1 et seq.). A-1762 simply provides that any funds appropriated pursuant to P.L.1974, c.79 (C.18A:58-37.1 et seq.) may be spent on electronic instructional materials in addition to traditional textbooks. The bill therefore does not require any additional State or local funds.

Section: *Education*

Analyst: *Kathleen Fazzari*
Section Chief

Approved: *Alan R. Kooney*
Legislative Budget and Finance Officer

This fiscal estimate has been prepared pursuant to P.L.1980, c.67.

P.L. 2000, CHAPTER 13, *approved April 17, 2000*

Assembly, No. 1762

1 **AN ACT** concerning State aid to pupils in nonpublic schools and
2 amending P.L.1974, c.79.

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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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30 deemed to be a resident of the State within the meaning of this act.

31 (cf: P.L.1974, c.79, s.2)

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33 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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38 Permits aid to nonpublic schools for electronic textbooks.

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.

CHAPTER 13

AN ACT concerning State aid to pupils in nonpublic schools and amending P.L.1974, c.79.

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

1. Section 2 of P.L.1974, c.79 (C.18A:58-37.2) is amended to read as follows:

C.18A:58-37.2 Definitions.

2. As used in this act:

- a. "Commissioner" means the State Commissioner of Education.
- b. "Nonpublic school" means an elementary or secondary school within the State, other than a public school, offering education for grades kindergarten through 12, or any combination of them, wherein any child may legally fulfill compulsory school attendance requirements and which complies with the requirements of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Pub.L.88-352).
- c. "Textbook" means books, workbooks or manuals, whether bound or in looseleaf form, or electronic textbooks, including but not limited to, computer software, computer-assisted instruction, interactive videodisk, and other computer courseware and magnetic media, intended as a principal source of study material for a given class or group of students, a copy of which is available for the individual use of each pupil in such class or group. Computer software shall be prepared educational programs which are subject- oriented and for student instruction.
- d. "Student" means any child who is a resident of the State and who is enrolled as a full-time pupil in a public or nonpublic school in grades kindergarten through 12. A child who boards at a school but whose parents do not maintain a residence in this State shall not be deemed to be a resident of the State within the meaning of this act.

2. This act shall take effect immediately.

Approved April 17, 2000.

Office of the Governor
NEWS RELEASE

PO BOX 004
TRENTON, NJ 08625

CONTACT: Gene Herman
609-777-2600

RELEASE: April 17, 2000

Gov. Christie Whitman today signed the following piece of legislation:

A-1762, sponsored by Assembly Member David W. Wolfe (R-Monmouth/Ocean) and Senators Joseph A. Palaia (R-Monmouth) and Diane B. Allen (R-Burlington/Camden), provides that state aid provided to school districts for the purchase of textbooks for nonpublic school students can be used for the purchase of electronic textbooks (e-textbooks). The bill expands the definition of textbook in the law to include e-textbooks, including, but not limited to computer software, computer-assisted instruction, interactive videodisks, and other computer courseware and magnetic media.