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NJSA: 18A:7D-3

(Education-state aid--temporary revision in method of calculation)

LAWS OF: 1991 CHAPTER: 62

Bill No: S3230

Sponsor(s):

Lynch

Date Introduced: January 14, 1991

Committee: Assembly: -----

Senate: Education

A mended during passage: Νo Senate floor substitute

Date of Passage: Assembly: March 11, 1991

> March 7, 1991 Senate:

Date of Approval: March 14, 1991

Following statements are attached if available:

Sponsor statement:

Committee Statement: Assembly: No

Senate: Yes

Fiscal Note: No

Veto Message: No

Message on signing: No

Following were printed:

Reports: Νo

Hearings: Νo

(over)

SENATE, No. 3230

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

ADOPTED MARCH 4, 1991

Sponsored by Senator LYNCH

AN ACT concerning State aid for public schools and revising parts of the statutory law.

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

- 1. Section 3 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-3) is amended to read as follows:
- 3. For the purposes of this act, unless the context clearly requires a different meaning:

"Adjusted resident enrollment" means the number of pupils who, on the last school day prior to October 16 of the prebudget year, are residents of the district and are enrolled in: (1) the public schools of the district, except as a post-graduate or evening school pupil; or (2) another school district to which the district of residence pays tuition [; (3) a county vocational school district; or (4) a county special services school district] other than a county vocational school district in the same county or county special services school district; provided that a district shall count pupils in a shared-time vocational program who are regularly attending both the schools of the district and of a county vocational school district on a equated full time basis in accordance with procedures to be established by the commissioner. For purposes of this section, resident enrollment shall include, beginning in the 1992-93 school year and thereafter, regardless of nonresidence, the enrolled children of teaching staff members of the school district who are permitted, by contract or local district policy, to enroll their children in the educational program of the school district without payment of tuition.

"Bilingual education pupil" means a pupil enrolled in a program of bilingual education approved by the State board.

"County vocational school, special education services pupil" means a pupil who is attending a county vocational school and who is receiving specific services pursuant to chapter 46 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes in special class programs when the pupil is enrolled in a special class register.

"CPI" means the average annual increase, expressed as a decimal, in the consumer price index for all urban consumers in

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.

 the New York City and Philadelphia areas during the three fiscal years preceding the prebudget year as reported by the United States Department of Labor.

"Current expense" means all expenses of the school district, as enumerated in N.J.S.18A:22-8, other than those required for interest and debt redemption charges and any budgeted capital outlay.

"Debt service" means and includes payments of principal and interest upon school bonds and other obligations issued to finance the acquisition of school sites and the acquisition, construction or of school buildings, including reconstruction furnishings, equipment and the costs of issuance of such obligations and shall include payments of principal and interest upon bonds heretofore issued to fund or refund such obligations, and upon municipal bonds and other obligations which the commissioner approves as having been issued for such purposes. Debt service pursuant to the provisions of P.L.1978, c.74 (C.18A:58-33.22 et seq.), P.L.1971, c.10 (C.18A:58-33.6 et seq.) and P.L.1968, c.177 (C.18A:58-33.2 et seq.) is excluded.

"District income" means the aggregate income of the residents of the taxing district or taxing districts, based upon data provided by the Bureau of the Census in the United States Department of Commerce for the most recent year prior to the budget year.

With respect to regional districts and their constituent districts, however, the district income as described above shall be allocated among the regional and constituent districts in proportion to the number of pupils in each of them. For the 1991-92 school year, regional and constituent pupils shall include pupils attending the schools of a county vocational school or a county special services school district. Part-time post secondary vocational pupils are to be excluded from this calculation.

"Equalized valuation" means the equalized valuation of the taxing district or taxing districts as certified by the Director of the Division of Taxation on October 1 of the prebudget year.

With respect to regional districts and their constituent districts, however, the equalized valuations as described above shall be allocated among the regional and constituent districts in proportion to the number of pupils in each of them. For the 1991-92 school year, regional and constituent pupils shall include pupils attending the schools of a county vocational school or a county special services school district. Part-time post secondary vocational pupils are to be excluded from this calculation. With respect to certain operating school districts, other than school districts that received funds through a municipal budget in 1989 as determined pursuant to column 1 (c) of Section C of the Abstract of Ratables, that are composed of one or more taxing districts, where 20% or more of the land area of the taxing district is situated within the development district subject to an intermunicipal tax sharing agreement pursuant to P.L.1968,

c.404 (C.13:17-1 et seq.), the equalized valuation shall equal the product of .70 and the amount of equalized valuation certified by the director.

"Evening school pupils" means the equated full-time resident enrollment of pupils enrolled in a public evening school established pursuant to N.J.S.18A:48-1.

"Local levy budget" means the sum of the foundation aid and transition aid received by a school district and the district's local levies for current expense and capital outlay.

"Maximum Statewide foundation aid" shall be determined annually by subtracting the total State aid payable pursuant to sections 14, 16, 80 and 81 of [this amendatory and supplementary act] P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-16, 18, 20 and 21) and sections 26, 29, 30 and 31 of P.L. , c. (C.)(now pending before the Legislature as this bill) from the maximum State school aid, by subtracting the funds appropriated pursuant to section 38 of P.L. ,c. ((C.)(now pending before the Legislature as this bill), and by adding any additional State aid which results from the provisions of section 27 of P.L. c. (C.)(now pending before the Legislature as this bill).

"Maximum State school aid" shall be determined for the 1992-93 school year and annually thereafter by [multiplying the total State school aid calculated pursuant to sections 4, 14, 16, 80 and 81 of this amendatory and supplementary act] adding 80% of the increase in the State school aid inflator and the maximum State school aid for the prebudget year [and the sum of 1.01 and the PCI.

The calculation of maximum State school aid shall assume that each district receives the maximum aid to which it is entitled]. However, beginning in the 1993-94 school year, the Governor may increase the maximum State school aid to an amount not to exceed the value of the State school aid inflator.

The State school aid inflator shall be determined for the 1992-93 school year and annually thereafter by multiplying the value of the school aid inflator for the prebudget year by the sum of 1.01 and the PCI. For the 1991-92 school year, the value of the school aid inflator is \$4,250,000,000.

"Net budget" means the sum of the foundation aid received by a school district and the State aid received pursuant to sections 14, 16, 25, 80, and 81 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C18A:7D-16, 18, 33, 20, and 21) and sections 26 and 31 of P.L. , c. (C.)(now pending before the Legislature as this bill) and the district's local levies for current expense and capital outlay. For a county special services school district, the net budget shall also include tuition received by the district to provide services pursuant to chapter 46 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

"Net debt service" means the balance after deducting all revenues from the school debt service budget of the school district and the school debt service amount included in the

 municipal budget, except the amounts to be raised by local taxation and State aid.

"Postgraduate pupils" means pupils who have graduated from high school and are enrolled in a secondary school for additional high school level courses.

"Prebudget year" means the school year preceding the year in which the school budget will be implemented.

"Pupils eligible for free meals or free milk" means those children who have been determined to be eligible to receive a free meal or free milk under the National School Lunch Act, 42 U.S.C. §1751 et seq., and the Child Nutrition Act of 1966, 42 U.S.C. §1771 et seq., as of October 15 of the prebudget year.

"PCI" means the average annual percentage increase, expressed as a decimal, in State per capita personal income over the four fiscal years ending on June 30 prior to the prebudget year. The per capita personal income for each of the four years shall be the average of the per capita personal income for the four quarters in each fiscal year utilizing the quarterly data for State personal income and State population as published by the United States Department of Commerce.

"Resident enrollment" means the number of pupils who, on the last school day prior to October 16 of the prebudget year, are residents of the district and are enrolled in: (1) the public schools of the district, including evening schools; (2) another school district, other than a county vocational school district in the same county or county special services school district on a full-time basis, State college demonstration school or private school to which the district of residence pays tuition; (3) a State facility; (4) [a county vocational school district; (5) a county special services school district; or (6)] are receiving home instruction; or (5) are in a shared-time vocational program and are regularly attending a school in the district and a county vocational school district. Pupils in a shared time vocational program shall be counted on an equated full-time basis in accordance with procedures to be established commissioner. For purposes of this section, resident enrollment shall include, beginning in the 1992-93 school year and thereafter, regardless of nonresidence, the enrolled children of teaching staff members of the school district who are permitted, by contract or local district policy, to enroll their children in the educational program of the school district without payment of

Handicapped children between three and five years of age and receiving programs and services pursuant to N.J.S.18A:46-6 shall be included in the resident enrollment of the district.

"School district" means any local or regional school district established pursuant to chapter 8 or chapter 13 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes and any county special services or county vocational school districts established pursuant to chapter

46 or chapter 54 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

"Special education services pupil" means a pupil receiving specific services pursuant to chapter 46 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes in special class programs when the pupil is enrolled in a special class register.

"Special needs district" means any school district, other than a school district in which the equalized valuation per pupil is more than twice the average Statewide equalized valuation per pupil, which, as of June 5, 1990: a. was classified by the Department of Education as an urban school district and was included in the department's district factor group A or B; or b. in which the quotient produced by dividing the number of pupils eligible for AFDC by the resident enrollment, less the number of preschool, evening school and post-graduate pupils, is greater than or equal to 0.15 and the number of pupils eligible for AFDC is greater than 1,000. For this calculation, pupils eligible for AFDC means those children aged 5-17 and resident in the district who are members of families which are eligible for "Aid to Families with Dependent Children" pursuant to P.L.1959, c.86 (C.44:10-1 et seq.), as of September 30 of the prebudget year.

"State facility" means a State residential facility for the retarded; a day training center which is operated by or under contract with the State and in which all the children have been placed by the State, including a private school approved by the Department of Education which is operated under contract with the Bureau of Special Residential Services in the Division of Developmental Disabilities in the Department of Human Services; a State residential youth center; a State training school or correctional facility; a State child treatment center or psychiatric hospital.

"Statewide average equalized school tax rate" means the amount calculated by dividing the sum of the current expense and capital outlay tax levies for all school districts, other than county vocational school and county special services school districts, in the State for the pre-budget year by the equalized valuations of all taxing districts in the State except taxing districts for which there are no school tax levies.

"Statewide equalized valuation" means the equalized valuation of all taxing districts in the State as certified by the Director of the Division of Taxation on October 1 of the prebudget year. In the event that the equalized table certified by the Director of the Division of Taxation shall be revised by the tax court after December 15 of the prebudget year, the revised valuations shall be used in the recomputation of aid for an individual school district filing an appeal, but shall have no effect upon the calculation of the property value multiplier.

"Total Statewide income" means the sum of the district incomes of all taxing districts in the State.

["Total Statewide local fair share" means the total Statewide

local foundation budget minus the maximum Statewide foundation aid.

"Total Statewide local foundation budget" means the sum of the foundation budgets of all districts in the State, assuming that each district's local levy, as defined in section 5 of this amendatory and supplementary act, equals its local fair share or the largest amount permitted pursuant to the provisions of section 23 of this amendatory and supplementary act.]

(cf: P.L.1990, c.52, s.3.)

- 2. Section 4 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-4) is amended to read as follows:
- 4. <u>a.</u> Each district's foundation aid for current expense and capital outlay purposes shall be determined as follows:

[A = B - L - S]

15 where

A is the foundation aid;

B is the foundation budget, determined pursuant to section 5 of this amendatory and supplementary act;

L is the local levy, which equals the lesser of the district's local fair share or the sum of the district's budget year levies for current expense and capital outlay;]

A = MB - FS - S

where

A is the foundation aid;

MB is the maximum foundation budget determined pursuant to section 6 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-6);

FS is the district's local fair share determined pursuant to section 7 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-7);

S is the excess surplus, equal to any beginning general fund free balance for the prebudget year which exceeds [15%] 7.5% of the district's [foundation] net budget for the prebudget year, after deducting from the balance any federal funds provided to a district pursuant to Pub.L.81-874, 20 U.S.C. \$236 et seq. However, for any district that has an approved surplus reduction plan in accordance with the provisions of subsection d. of section 23 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-29), excess surplus shall be any amount that exceeds the amount specified in the plan.

b. Each district's foundation aid for current expense and capital outlay shall be expended to provide a thorough and efficient system of education and may be used for preschool programs, full day kindergarten, school libraries, school security and other educational purposes and functions.

(cf: P.L.1990, c.52, s.4.)

- 3. Section 6 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-6) is amended to read as follows:
- 6. [The] Beginning with the 1993-94 school year, the district's maximum foundation budget shall be calculated in accordance with the following formula:

 $MB = (F \times U) + C$ where

MB is the maximum foundation budget;

F is the State foundation amount as defined pursuant to subsection b. of this section;

U is the number of foundation aid units for pupils in the district's resident enrollment as calculated pursuant to subsection a, of this section; and

C is the facilities component, which shall be determined by multiplying the district's adjusted resident enrollment by the facilities aid amount, as defined in subsection b. of this section.

a. For pupils in the district's resident enrollment, the number of foundation aid units shall be determined by adding the products obtained by multiplying the pupils in each grade category or program category by the appropriate foundation weight. For pupils in the resident enrollment of special needs districts and for pupils in the resident enrollment of other districts for whom the district of residence pays tuition to a special needs district, the appropriate foundation weight for each grade category shall be multiplied by the special needs weight, which shall equal 1.05. Pupils counted in a program category shall not also be counted in a grade category.

Grade Category	Foundation
	Weight
Full Day Kindergarten or preschool	1.00
Half Day Kindergarten or preschool	0.50
Grades 1-5	1.00
Grades 6-8	1.10
Grades 9-12	1.33
Program Category	
Special education services pupil	1.00
Evening school	0.50
Post-graduate	0.50
County vocational school	[1.59] <u>1.33</u>
Post secondary vocational education	1.33

b. As used in this section:

The State foundation amount for the 1991-92 school year shall equal [\$6,835.00] \$6,640.00, and thereafter shall equal the product of the State foundation amount for the prebudget year and the sum of 1.0 and the PCI.

The facilities aid amount for the 1991-1992 school year shall equal [\$110.00] \$107.00, and thereafter shall equal the product of the facilities aid amount for the prebudget year and the sum of 1.0 and the PCI.

c. For the purposes of calculating foundation aid units pursuant to this section, pupils in ungraded classes shall be assigned to the most appropriate grade category in accordance with procedures to be established by the commissioner.

d. The county vocational school program categories shall be applicable to [full and part-time] full-time post secondary pupils attending [county vocational schools, provided that the weight for part-time pupils may be adjusted in accordance with procedures to be established by the commissioner] approved post secondary vocational education programs operated by county vocational schools. Post-secondary vocational education programs shall be operated by county vocational schools in accordance with rules prescribed by the commissioner and approved by the State board.

e. For the 1991-92 and 1992-93 school years, each district's maximum foundation budget shall be reduced by the amount of the anticipated pension and social security aid payable to the school district for the budget year pursuant to section 29 and 30 of P.L., c. (C.) (now pending before the Legislature as this bill). For this purpose the aid payable to receiving districts on behalf of sending districts shall be reallocated to the sending districts of residence on a per pupil basis. For this purpose aid payable pursuant to section 30 of P.L., c.

(C.)(now pending before the Legislature as this bill) shall be estimated for each district.

(cf: P.L.1990, c.52, s.6.)

- 4. Section 7 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-7) is amended to read as follows:
- 7. [Each] For districts other than county vocational school districts or county special services school districts, each school district's local fair share shall be calculated as follows:

 $FS = ((V \times VM) + (I \times IM))/2$ where

FS is the local fair share; however, for special needs school districts, if FS is greater than the product of V and SV, then FS shall equal the product of V and SV;

V is the district's total equalized valuation;

VM is the property value multiplier, as determined pursuant to section 8 of [this amendatory and supplementary act] P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-8);

I is the district's adjusted income, as determined pursuant to section 9 of [this amendatory and supplementary act] P.L.1990. c.52 (C.18A:7D-9); [and]

IM is the income multiplier, as determined pursuant to section 8 of [this amendatory and supplementary act] P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-8); and

SV is the product of the statewide average equalized school tax rate for the prebudget year and 1.1765 for the 1992-93 school year, 1.1234 for the 1993-94 school year, 1.0883 for the 1994-95 school year, 1.0441 for the 1995-96 school year and 1 thereafter.

The local fair share for each county vocational or county special services school district shall be calculated by dividing the sum of the local fair shares of all other districts in the county by the sum of the maximum foundation budgets of all the districts in the county. The quotient shall be then multiplied by the county

vocational or county special services school district's maximum foundation budget as determined pursuant to section 6 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-6) to obtain its local fair share.

(cf: P.L.1990, c.52, s.7.)

- 5. Section 8 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-8) is amended to read as follows:
- 8. The values for the property value multiplier and the income multiplier shall be annually determined by the commissioner as follows:

The property value multiplier shall be determined such that foundation aid equals the maximum Statewide foundation aid had foundation aid for all districts been determined according to sections 4 [through] , 6, 7 and 23 of [this amendatory and supplementary act] P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-4, 6, 7 and 29), had each school district's local fair share equalled the product of the property value multiplier and the district's equalized valuation; and had each district's [local levy] current expense and capital outlay levies equalled its local fair share [or the largest amount permitted pursuant to section 23 of this amendatory and supplementary act].

The income multiplier shall be determined such that foundation aid equals the maximum Statewide foundation aid had foundation aid for all districts been determined according to sections 4 [through], 6, 7 and 23 of [this amendatory and supplementary act] P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-4, 6, 7, and 29), had each school district's local fair share equalled the product of the income multiplier and the district's adjusted income, as determined pursuant to section 9 of [this amendatory and supplementary act;] P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-9), and had each district's [local levyl current expense and capital outlay levies equalled its local fair share [or the largest amount permitted pursuant to section 23 of this amendatory and supplementary act].

In the event that these multipliers, when used in accordance with the provisions of sections 4 [through], 6, 7 and 23 of [this amendatory and supplementary act] P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-4, 6, 7 and 29) and assuming that each district's [local levy equals] current expense and capital outlay levies are equal to its local fair share [or the largest amount permitted pursuant to section 23 of this amendatory and supplementary act], do not result in foundation aid for all districts equal to the maximum Statewide foundation aid, the commissioner shall adjust the above multipliers appropriately giving equal weight to each.

- (cf: P.L.1990, c.52, s.8.)
 - 6. Section 9 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-9) is amended to read as follows:
- 9. Each district's adjusted income shall equal the district income, unless the district meets the conditions in subsection a.
- 48 a. If for any school district:
- 49 RV < 0.5 and RI/RV > 1.5; then the district's adjusted income

shall equal the greater of:

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- (1) $P (\$15,000 \times E)$; or
- (2) 1.5 x RV x SI x E where

P [means] is the district income;

SI [means] is the State average income per pupil, calculated by dividing total Statewide income by the Statewide resident enrollment;

RV [means] is the ratio of district equalized valuation per pupil to the State average equalized valuation per pupil, calculated by dividing the district's equalized valuation per pupil by the Statewide equalized valuation per pupil;

RI [means] is the ratio of district income per pupil to the Statewide average income per pupil, calculated by dividing the district's income per pupil by the State average income per pupil; and

E [means] is resident enrollment.

b. As used in this section:

"District income per pupil" equals the district income divided by the resident enrollment;

"Equalized valuation per pupil" equals the district's equalized valuation divided by the resident enrollment;

"State average equalized valuation per pupil" equals the Statewide equalized valuation divided by the resident enrollment of all school districts in the State.

(cf: P.L.1990, c.52, s.9.)

- 7. Section 11 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-13) is amended to read as follows:
- 11. On or before April 1, 1992, and on or before April 1 of each subsequent even numbered year, the Governor, after consultation with the [Department] Commissioner of Education, shall recommend to the Legislature any revision in the schedule of foundation weights, including the special needs weight [but excluding and the weights for county vocational school programs, in section 6 of [this amendatory and supplementary act] P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-6) and any revisions in the at-risk weights in section 80 of [this amendatory and supplementary act] P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-20) and the bilingual weight in section 81 of [this amendatory and supplementary actl P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-21) which is deemed proper, together with appropriate supporting information. The revised weights shall be deemed approved for the fiscal year beginning one year from the subsequent July 1 at the end of 60 calendar days after the date on which they are transmitted to the Senate and General Assembly, or if the Legislature is not in session on the 60th day, then on the next succeeding day on which it shall be meeting in the course of a regular or special session, unless between the date of transmittal and the end of the above period, the Legislature passes a concurrent resolution stating that the Legislature does not favor the revised schedule of weights, in which case the weights then in

effect shall continue in effect.

(cf: P.L.1990, c.52, s.11.)

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- 8. Section 12 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-14) is amended to read as follows:
- 12. a. The commissioner shall undertake a study of the cost of providing county vocational school programs and shall, based upon the results of that study, propose classifications and [program] weights for these programs for the purposes of section 26 of P.L. c. (C.)(now pending before the Legislature as this bill) based upon the average cost of providing each class of program. The classification system shall include not more than [three] six classes of vocational programs. [The classification and weights shall be such that had they been in effect for the 1991–1992 school year the total number of foundation units generated Statewide by the classification and weights would not have exceeded the product of the number of county vocational school students in the State and 1.59.]
- b. On or before April 1, 1992 the Governor, after consultation with the [Department] Commissioner of Education, recommend to the Legislature the weights and classifications for county vocational school programs which are deemed proper, together with appropriate supporting information. The weights and classifications shall be deemed approved for the 1993-94 school year at the end of 60 calendar days after the date on which they are transmitted to the Senate and General Assembly, or if the Legislature is not in session on the 60th day, then on the next succeeding day on which it shall be meeting in the course of a regular or special session, unless, between the date of transmittal and the end of the above period, the Legislature passes a concurrent resolution stating that the Legislature does not favor the weights and classifications, in which case the weight [of 1.59] for all vocational programs shall continue in effect.
- c. On or before April 1, 1994, and on or before April 1 of each subsequent even numbered year, the Governor, after consultation the [Department of Education] commissioner, shall recommend to the Legislature any revision in the weights or classifications of county vocational school programs for the purposes of section 26 of P.L. c. (C.)(now pending before the Legislature as this bill) which is deemed proper, together with appropriate supporting information. The revised weights or classifications shall be deemed approved for the fiscal year beginning one year from the subsequent July 1 at the end of 60 calendar days after the date on which they are transmitted to the Senate and General Assembly, or if the Legislature is not in session on the 60th day, then on the next succeeding day on which it shall be meeting in the course of a regular or special session, unless between the date of transmittal and the end of the above period, the Legislature passes a concurrent resolution stating that

the Legislature does not favor the revised weights and classifications, in which case the weights and classifications then in effect shall continue in effect.

(cf: P.L.1990, c.52, s.12.)

- 9. Section 13 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-15) is amended to read as follows:
- 13. a. For the purpose of calculating foundation aid for the 1991-92 school year pursuant to section 4 of [this amendatory and supplementary act] P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-4), excess [free balances] surplus for all districts shall be \$0.00.
- b. For the purpose of computing the maximum Statewide foundation aid for the 1991–92 school year pursuant to section 3 of [this amendatory and supplementary act] $\underline{P.L.1990, c.52}$ $\underline{(C.18A:7D-3)}$, maximum State school aid shall equal [\$4,250,000,000] $\underline{\$4,100,000,000}$.
- c. For purposes other than for the computation of foundation aid pursuant to section 4 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-4), the State foundation amount for the 1991-92 school year shall equal \$6,835.00 and for the 1992-93 school year shall equal the product of \$6,835.00 and the sum of 1.0 and the PCI.
- 21 (cf: P.L.1990, c.52, s.13.)
 - 10. Section 14 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-16) is amended to read as follows:
 - 14. Each district's special education aid shall be determined in accordance with the following calculations:
 - a. The number of special education aid units shall be determined by adding the products obtained by multiplying the pupils in each category by the appropriate additional cost factors.

The additional cost factors shall be the following:

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30	Special Education Additional	Cost	Factors
31	Categories		
32	Educable		0.60
33	Trainable		0.99
34	Orthopedically handicapped		1.70
35	Neurologically impaired		0.42
36	Perceptually impaired		0.12
37	Visually handicapped		2.79
38	Auditorily handicapped		1.63
39	Communication handicapped		0.84
40	Emotionally disturbed		1.09
41	Socially maladjusted		0.67
42	Chronically ill		2.23
43	Multiply handicapped		1.05
44	Resource room		0.45
45	Autistic		1.84
46	Preschool Handicapped, half day		0.30
47	Preschool Handicapped, full day		0.60
48	County special services school district		1.38
49	Regional Day schools		1.38

1	County Vocational School, Special	
2	Education Services	0.59
3	Residential facility for the retarded	1.72
4	Day training center	2.37
5	Residential youth center	1.39
6	Training school or correctional facility	0.56
7	Child treatment center or psychiatric	
8	hospital	1.03
9	Supplementary and speech instruction	0.18
10	based on the	number
11	of pupils act	ually
12	receiving suc	h
13	instruction i	n
14	the prior	
15	school year	
16	b. The number of special education aid un	its for

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- b. The number of special education aid units for home instruction shall be determined by multiplying the number of hours of instruction actually provided in the prior school year by 0.0025.
- c. For the purposes of this section, special education aid [for pupils attending county vocational schools or county special services school districts shall be credited to districts in which the pupils reside and paid to the county vocational school pursuant to the provisions of subsection e. of section 71 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:54-20.1) or county special services school pursuant to subsection d. of section 3 of P.L.1971, c.271 (C.18A:46-31). Special education aid for supplementary, speech and home instruction for pupils attending county vocational schools or county special services schools shall be paid to the districts in which the pupils reside.

Special education aid for all other pupils] shall be paid to the districts in which the pupils reside except in the case of home, supplementary or speech instruction where aid shall be paid to the district providing the service. No [school, other than a] tuition may be charged for such home, supplementary or speech instruction. For the 1991–92 school year special education aid for pupils enrolled in resource room programs in county vocational [school or a] schools or county special services [school district, may charge tuition] schools and for home, supplementary or speech instruction [for costs covered by special education aid as provided in this section] shall be paid to the districts in which the pupils reside.

- d. Special education aid shall equal the number of special education aid units multiplied by the State foundation amount, as defined pursuant to section 6 of [this amendatory and supplementary act] P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-6).
- e. For the 1991-92 school year, aid for all pupils in preschool handicapped classes shall be calculated using the additional cost factor for half-day programs. Beginning with the 1992-93 school

year, both half-day and full-day cost factors shall be utilized.

(cf: P.L.1990, c.52, s.14.)

- 11. Section 16 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-18) is amended to read as follows:
- 16. Each district's State aid for transportation shall equal the sum of A1, A2 and A3 determined as follows:

 $A1 = R \times C + (R \times D \times W)$

 $A2 = RS \times CS + (RS \times DS \times WS)$

 $A3 = (R + RS) \times ((P \times PM) + (E \times EM))$

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R is the number of pupils eligible for transportation pursuant to N.J.S.18A:39-1 as of the last school day prior to October 16 of the prebudget year;

C is the per pupil constant, which shall equal 502.27 for school districts located in very high cost counties, shall equal 365.10 for school districts located in high cost counties and shall equal 254.41 for school districts located in any other county;

D is the average distance between the home and school of the pupils eligible for transportation pursuant to N. J.S. 18A:39-1;

W is the regular transportation mileage weight, which shall equal 21.57 for school districts located in the very high cost counties and high cost counties and shall equal 14.19 for school districts located in any other county;

RS is the number of pupils eligible for transportation pursuant to N.J.S.18A:46-23 as of the last school day prior to October 16 of the prebudget year;

CS is the per pupil constant for N.J.S.18A:46-23 transportation, which shall equal 1051.72 for school districts located in very high cost counties, shall equal 914.55 for school districts located in high cost counties and shall equal 803.86 for school districts located in any other county;

PM means the population density multiplier, which equals .00541;

P means population density, calculated as the district's population according to the most recent data available from the Bureau of the Census divided by the number of square miles in the school district;

DS is the average distance between the home and school of the pupils eligible for transportation pursuant to N.J.S.18A:46-23;

WS is the mileage weight for N.J.S.18A:46-23 transportation, which shall equal 64.05 for school districts located in very high cost counties and high cost counties and shall equal 56.68 for school districts located in any other county;

EM means the district size multiplier, which equals .00762; and E means the resident enrollment of the district.

As used in this section a high cost county is a county in which for the 1988-89 school year the average cost per pupil mile for approved transportation, other than for handicapped pupils or pupils whose parent or guardian receives a payment in lieu of transportation pursuant to N.J.S.18A:39-1, exceeded the Statewide average by more than 15%.

As used in this section a very high cost county is a county in which for the 1988-89 school year the average cost per pupil mile for approved transportation, other than for handicapped pupils or pupils whose parent or guardian receives a payment in lieu of transportation pursuant to N.J.S.18A:39-1, exceeded the Statewide average by more than 85%.

Whenever a pupil receives transportation to and from a remote nonpublic school pursuant to N.J.S.18A:39-1 or whenever the parent or guardian of a pupil receives a payment in lieu of transportation pursuant to N.J.S.18A:39-1, the State aid for transportation received by the district for that pupil shall not exceed \$675 or the amount [of the payment] determined pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1981, c.57 (C.18A:39-1a), whichever is the greater amount.

County vocational school districts shall be eligible to receive state aid for purposes of this section beginning with the 1992-93 school year.

County special services school districts shall be ineligible to receive state aid for purposes of this section.

For any school year in which the numerical values in this section have not been altered pursuant to section 17 of [this amendatory and supplementary act] P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-19), the State aid amount calculated for a district pursuant to this section shall be increased by the product of the amount calculated and the CPI.

(cf: P.L.1990, c.52, s.16)

- 12. Section 19 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-24) is amended to read as follows:
- 19. The amounts payable to each school district pursuant to [this act] P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-1 et al.) shall be paid by the State Treasurer upon the certification of the commissioner and warrant of the Director of the Division of Budget and Accounting. Five percent of the appropriation for foundation, special education, transportation, at-risk [and], bilingual, county vocational education program and pension aid shall be paid on the first and fifteenth of each month from September through June. If a local board of education requires funds prior to the first payment, the board shall file a written request with the Commissioner of Education stating the need for the funds. The commissioner shall review each request and forward those for which need has been demonstrated to the appropriate officials for payment.

Debt service funds shall be paid as required to meet due dates for payment of principal and interest.

Each school district shall file an annual written request for debt service payments to the commissioner 30 days prior to the beginning of the fiscal year for which the appropriation is made.

Such request shall include the amount of interest bearing school 1 debt, if any, of the municipality or district then remaining 3 unpaid, together with the rate of interest payable thereon, the date or dates on which the bonds or other evidences of 4 indebtedness were issued, and the date or dates upon which they 5 fall due. In the case of Type I school districts, the board 6 secretary shall secure the schedule of outstanding obligations 8 from the clerk of the municipality. 9

(cf: P.L.1990, c.52, s.19)

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- 13. Section 22 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-27) is amended to read as follows:
- 22. Annually, on or before [January 15] February 1, local boards of education shall submit to the commissioner a copy of their proposed budgets for the next school year. commissioner shall review each item of appropriation within the current expense and capital outlay budgets and shall determine the adequacy of the budgets with regard to the annual reports submitted pursuant to section 11 of P.L.1975, (C.18A:7A-11) and such other criteria as may be established by the State board.

[Whenever a district's proposed budget includes a foundation budget which exceeds the district's foundation budget from the prebudget year by more than 10%, the board shall submit with the budget a plan to improve the quality and range of the district's educational program with the additional funds. The plan shall utilize policies and programs whose educational effectiveness has been demonstrated. Permissible uses of the additional funds shall include the reduction of class size, expansion of the curriculum, expansion of support services, enhancement of inservice training and such other uses as the commissioner may approve.]

31 (cf: P.L.1990, c.52, s.22)

- 14. Section 23 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-29) is amended to read as follows:
- 23. [For the purpose] a. Except as provided pursuant to subsection b. of this section, for purposes of calculating foundation aid, the maximum foundation budget, as calculated pursuant to section [5 of this amendatory and supplementary act, shall not be greater than 130% of the foundation budget for the prebudget year. Accordingly, the value for the local levy, as used in sections 4 and 5 of this amendatory and supplementary act, shall be limited to an amount that will generate a permissible foundation budget. Nothing in this section shall restrict the local school levies adopted pursuant to chapter 22 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.] 6 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-6), and local fair share, as calculated pursuant to section 7 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-7), shall be subject to a foundation aid growth <u>limitation</u> as follows:

If for any school district:

NB > MNB then reduce MB and FS proportionately so that NB = MNB

<u>where</u>

 MB is the maximum foundation budget as defined in section 6 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-6);

FS is the fair share as determined pursuant to section 7 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-7);

NB is the net budget for the budget year had the sum of the district's budget year current expense and capital outlay levies equaled FS; and,

MNB is 120% of the net budget for the prebudget year.

b. For the 1991-92 and 1992-93 school years MNB means the maximum permissible net budget for the budget year as determined pursuant to section 85 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-28). Beginning with the 1993-94 school year, MNB for special needs school districts shall be adjusted if the special needs district's equity spending cap pursuant to the provisions of subsections c. and d. of section 85 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-28), provides for budget growth greater than 20%.

- c. For the 1991-92 school year, general fund free balance of less than 10% and greater than 5% of the district's 1990-91 net budget shall be appropriated for the 1991-92 budget year. Beginning March 1, 1991 and for the remainder of the 1990-91 school year, general fund free balance may be appropriated; however, such appropriation shall be approved by the commissioner.
- d. If a district's general fund free balance equals 10% or more of the district's 1990-91 net budget, the district shall file a plan with the commissioner to ensure that the district's general fund free balance shall be no greater than 7.5% in the 1993-94 school year.
- (cf: P.L.1990, c.52, s.23)
 - 15. Section 24 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-30) is amended to read as follows:
 - 24. <u>a.</u> For the purpose of calculating the foundation aid growth limitation in section 23 of [this amendatory and supplementary act] P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-29) and the maximum permissible net budget pursuant to the provisions of section 85 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-28) for the 1991-92 school year, each district's [foundation] net budget for the 1990-91 school year shall equal the balance in the current expense and capital outlay budgets after deducting [(1) State aid for handicapped pupils pursuant to section 20 of P.L.1975, c.212 (C.18A:7A-20), (2) State aid for approved transportation, (3)] all other revenue in the current expense and capital outlay budgets except the amount to be

provided by local taxation, equalization support, budgeted capital outlay support, and State support for bilingual education, compensatory education [and], local vocational education, State aid for handicapped pupils pursuant to section 20 of P.L.1975, c.212 (C.18A:7A-20) and State aid for approved transportation. Each county special services school district's net budget for the 1990-91 school year shall be established by the commissioner.

b. [This amount] For the purpose of calculating the foundation aid growth limitation in section 23 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-29) and the maximum permissible net budget and local levy budget pursuant to the provisions of section 85 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-28) for the 1993-94 school year, the maximum permissible net budget shall be increased to include State support paid on the district's behalf in the [1990-1991] 1992-93 school year pursuant to [N.J.S.18A:66-33 and N.J.S.18A:66-66] sections 29 and 30 of P.L., c. (C.)(now pending before the Legislature as this bill). [In addition, the commissioner shall adjust this amount for each district which sent or received pupils during the 1990-91 school year to reflect the change in the definition of resident enrollment contained in this amendatory and supplementary act. All of the expenses of and aid for a county vocational school district or a county special services school district shall be reallocated to the districts of residence on a per pupil basis.] Aid paid [on behalf of] to receiving districts pursuant to [N.J.S.18A:66-33 and N.J.S.18A:66-66] sections 29 and 30 of P.L., c. (C.)(now pending before the Legislature as this bill) on behalf of sending districts shall be reallocated to the sending districts of residence on a per pupil basis. Aid payments pursuant to [N.J.S.18A:66-66] section 30 of P.L., c. (C.) (now pending before the Legislature as this bill) shall be estimated for each district.

32 (cf: P.L.1990, c.52, s.24)

33 16. Section 25 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-33) is amended to read as follows:

25. a. State transition aid $\underline{\text{for the } 1991-92 \text{ and } 1992-93 \text{ school}}$ $\underline{\text{years}}$ shall be calculated in accordance with the following formula:

 $T = F \times (B - A)$

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F [means] <u>is</u> transition aid factor, which shall equal 1.0 for the 1991-92 school year [,] <u>and</u> 0.75 for the 1992-93 school year [, 0.50 for the 1993-94 school year, 0.25 for the 1994-95 school year, and 0.0 thereafter];

A [means] is the district State aid amount, which shall equal the sum of the foundation aid received by a school district and the State aid received by or paid on behalf of a school district during the 1991-92 school year pursuant to sections [4,] 14, 16, [80] and 81 of [this amendatory and supplementary act] P.L.1990,

c.52 (C.18A:7D-16, 18 and 21) and sections 26 and 31 of P.L., c. (C.)(now pending before the Legislature as this bill); and

B [means] is the base aid amount, which shall equal the product of 1.065 and the sum of State aid received by or paid on behalf of a school district during the 1990-1991 school year pursuant to sections 18, 19, 20 and 24 of P.L.1975, c.212 (C.18A:7A-18, 18A:7A-19, 18A:7A-20, 18A:7A-24), N.J.S.18A:46-23, section 16 of P.L.1971, c.271 (C.18A:46-44), N.J.S.18A:58-6 [,] and N.J.S.18A:58-7 [, N.J.S.18A:66-33 and N.J.S.18A:66-66], less any debt service aid received by or on behalf of the district and less any categorical program support the district received for State compensatory education pupils pursuant to section 20 of P.L.1975, c.212 (C.18A:7A-20). [The commissioner shall adjust this amount for each district which sends or receives pupils to reflect the change in the definition of resident enrollment contained in this amendatory and supplementary act. All of the above aid received by a county vocational school district or a county special services school district shall be reallocated to the districts of residence on a per pupil basis. Aid paid on behalf of receiving districts pursuant to N. J.S. 18A:66-33 N.J.S.18A:66-66 shall be reallocated to districts of residence on a per pupil basis. Aid payments pursuant to N.J.S.18A:66-66 shall be estimated for each district and the commissioner shall adjust the base aid amount when the amount of actual payments are known.]

b. State transition aid for the 1993-94 and 1994-95 school years shall be calculated in accordance with the following formula:

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$T = F \times (B - A)$

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T is transition aid;

F is transition aid factor, which shall equal 0.50 for the 1993-94 school year and 0.25 for the 1994-95 school year;

A is the district State aid amount, which shall equal the sum of the foundation aid received by a school district and the State aid received by or paid on behalf of a school district during the 1991-92 school year pursuant to sections 14, 16, and 81 of P.L. 1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-16, 18 and 21) and sections 26 and 31 of P.L. ,c. (C.)(Now pending before the Legislature as this bill); and;

B is the base aid amount, which shall equal the product of 1.065 and the sum of State aid received by or paid on behalf of a school district during the 1990-1991 school year pursuant to sections 18, 19, 20 and 24 of P.L.1975, c.212 (C.18A:7A-18, 18A:7A-19, 18A:7A-20, 18A:7A-24), N.J.S.18A:46-23, section 16 of P.L.1971, c.271 (C.18A:46-44), N.J.S.18A:58-6, N.J.S.18A:58-7,

N. J.S. 18A:66-33 and N. J.S. 18A:66-66, less any debt service aid received by or on behalf of the district and less any categorical program support the district received for State compensatory education pupils pursuant to section 20 of P.L.1975, c.212 (C.18A:7A-20). Aid paid to receiving districts pursuant to N.J.S.18A:66-33 and N.J.S.18A:66-66 on behalf of sending districts shall be reallocated to the sending districts of residence on a per pupil basis.

[b.] <u>c.</u> If, in any year, the transition aid calculated pursuant to this section for any district is less than zero, the district shall not receive transition aid in that year. Five percent of the appropriation for State transition aid shall be paid on the first and fifteenth of each month from September to June.

(cf: P.L.1990, c.52, s.25)

- 17. Section 28 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-36) is amended to read as follows:
- 28. When State aid [shall have been] is calculated for any year and a part of any district becomes a new school district or a part of another school district, including a county vocational school district or county special services school district established after January 1, 1991, or comes partly under the authority of a regional board of education, the commissioner shall adjust the State aid calculations among the districts affected, or between the district and the county vocational school district, county special services school district or the regional board, as the case may be, on an equitable basis in accordance with the intent of [this amendatory and supplementary act] P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-1 et al.).

Whenever an all-purpose regional district is approved by the voters during any calendar year, the regional district shall become effective on the succeeding July 1 for the purpose of calculating State aid, and the commissioner shall request supplemental appropriations for such additional State aid as may be required.

After a regional school district becomes entitled to State aid, it shall continue to be entitled to such aid as calculated for a regional district notwithstanding the subsequent consolidation of the constituent municipalities of the regional school district.

(cf: P.L.1990, c.52, s.28)

- 18. Section 80 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-20) is amended to read as follows:
- 42 80. Each district's State aid for programs for at-risk pupils shall be calculated as follows:

 $A = F \times R$ where

A is the district's aid for at-risk pupils;

F is the State foundation amount as defined pursuant to section 6 of this amendatory and supplementary act; and

R is the number of pupil units for at-risk pupils as determined as follows:

The number of pupil units shall be determined by multiplying the number of pupils eligible for free meals or free milk in each grade category by the appropriate weight.

Grade	Weight
Grades preschool - 5.	[0.18] <u>0.151</u>
Grades 6-8	[0.20] <u>0.168</u>
Grades 9-12	

For the purpose of determining State aid for programs for at-risk pupils, pupils in ungraded classes shall be assigned to the most appropriate grade category in accordance with procedures to be established by the commissioner and aid for pupils attending half-day programs shall be determined by reducing the appropriate weight by one-half.

(cf: P.L.1990, c.52, s.80)

- 19. Section 85 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-28) is amended to read as follows:
- 85. [a. As used in this section "local levy budget" means the sum of the foundation aid received by a school district and the district's local levy for current expense and capital outlay.
- b. Whenever a district's local levy budget for the prebudget year exceeds the district's maximum foundation budget, as determined pursuant to section 6 of this amendatory and supplementary act, by more than 50%, the district's local levy budget for the budget year shall not exceed the district's local levy budget for the prebudget year by more than the product of the local levy budget for the prebudget year and the PCI.
- c. In all other instances, except as provided in subsection d. of this section, the district's local levy budget for the budget year shall not exceed the district's local levy budget for the prebudget year by more than the amount calculated as follows:

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LB = PCI \times (4 - (2 \times PBY/MB)) \times PBY where
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LB means the maximum increase in the local levy budget;

PBY means the local levy budget for the prebudget year;

MB means the maximum foundation budget for the budget year as determined pursuant to section 6 of this amendatory and supplementary act; and

PCI means the average annual increase in per capita income as defined pursuant to section 3 of this amendatory and supplementary act.

- d. If, for the 1991-92 school year, a district's local levy budget for the prebudget year does not exceed the district's maximum foundation budget, as determined pursuant to section 6 of this amendatory and supplementary act or if, in any school year, the district is classified as a special needs district, the provisions of this section are not applicable to the district.
- e. The commissioner may approve the request of a local board of education for a greater increase, having adjudged that (1) a reallocation of resources or any other action taken within the

permissible level of spending would be insufficient to provide a thorough and efficient education, or (2) an increased enrollment may reasonably be anticipated in the district.]

<u>a. "Maximum permissible net budget" means the amount calculated as follows:</u>

 $PNB = PCI \times PR \times PBY$

where

PNB is the maximum permissible increase in the net budget for the budget year;

PCI is the average annual percentage increase in per capita income as defined in section 3 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-3);

PR is 1.7442 - (.6460 x BR), however PR shall not be greater than 1.1628 or less than .9690;

BR is the ratio of the district's local levy budget of the prebudget year to the district's maximum foundation budget for the budget year as determined pursuant to section 6 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-6); and

PBY is the net budget for the prebudget year.

b. In determining a district's maximum permissible net budget for the 1991-92 school year, the district's net budget for the 1990-91 school year shall be increased by the amount of any current expense or capital outlay surplus which was appropriated in the district's 1990-91 annual school budget.

c. Annually through the 1995-96 school year for each special needs district, the commissioner shall calculate an equity spending cap which shall provide for a percentage increase in the district's budget that, if sustained for each year through the 1995-96 school year, would result in the per pupil budget of the special needs district equalling the average per pupil budget of the districts included in the Department of Education's district factor groups I and J. The equity spending cap shall also allow for those budget items included in the net budget, but excluded from the local levy budget, to grow annually at the PCI or CPI, as appropriate. To ensure equity, the commissioner shall also adjust the calculation of the equity cap, when necessary, to account for the payment of teacher pension and social security aid.

As used in this subsection:

<u>CPI is the consumer price index as defined in section 3 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-3);</u>

PCI is the average annual percentage increase in per capita income as defined in section 3 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-3); and Per pupil budget is the budget divided by the resident enrollment.

d. If, for any year, a special needs district's equity spending cap determined by the commissioner pursuant to subsection c. of this section exceeds the maximum permissible increase in the net budget as determined pursuant to subsection a. of this section, the district may increase its net budget in accordance with the equity spending cap.

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e. A board of education of a school district which: (1) for the two years prior to the prebudget year, has had an annual average increase in the district's resident enrollment which is greater than two percent; or (2) between the prebudget year and the year prior to the prebudget year, has had an increase in the district's local cost for special education pupils which is greater than five percent; or (3) during the 1990-91 school year but prior to April 1, 1991, has entered into a lease purchase agreement, may apply to the Commissioner of Education for a waiver of the expenditure limitation established pursuant to this section. A board of education of a school district that sends pupils and pays tuition to a special needs district may apply to the Commissioner of Education for a waiver of the expenditure limitation established pursuant to this section. Any waiver granted by the commissioner pursuant to this subsection shall not be included in the question on excess expenditures which is to be submitted to the voters of the district pursuant to subsection f. of this section.

f. Any school district may submit a proposal to raise the amount of tax levy necessary to exceed the maximum permissible net budget permitted by this section to the legal voters of the district for type II school districts without a Board of School Estimate and to the Board of School Estimate for those school districts with a Board of School Estimate as required during the school budget approval process pursuant to chapters 22 and 54 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes and section 13 of P.L.1971, c.271 (C.18A:46-41). The proposal to raise additional tax levy to exceed the maximum permissible net budget shall be in addition to the amounts required to be approved for each school district in accordance with chapters 22 and 54 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes and section 13 of P.L.1971, c.271 (C.18A:46-41). In the event that a school district's proposal to raise the tax levy to exceed the maximum permissible net budget is not approved in accordance with the budget approval process set forth in chapter 22 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes for type II districts and for type I districts, chapter 54 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes for county vocational school districts and section 13 of P.L.1971, c.271 (C.18A:46-41) for county special services school districts, that disapproval shall be deemed final and shall not be subject to further review or appeal.

(cf: P.L. 1990, c.52, s.85)

20. Section 86 of P.L.1990, c.52 is amended to read as follows:

86. For the purpose of calculating [the] <u>each district's maximum permissible net</u> budget [growth limitation in] <u>pursuant to section 85 of [this amendatory and supplementary act] P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-28) for the 1991-92 school year, each district's local levy budget for the 1990-91 school year shall equal the balance in the current expense and capital outlay budgets after deducting (1) State aid for handicapped pupils pursuant to section 20 of P.L.1975, c.212 (C.18A:7A-20),</u>

1 (2) State aid for approved transportation, (3) all other revenue in the current expense and capital outlay budgets except the amount 2 to be provided by local taxation, equalization support, budgeted 3 capital outlay support, and State support for [bilingual education, 4 compensatory education and local vocational education. [This 5 amount shall be increased to include State support paid on the 6 7 district's behalf in the 1990-1991 school year pursuant to N.J.S.18A:66-33 and N. J.S. 18A:66-66. 8 In addition, 9 commissioner shall adjust this amount for each district which sent or received pupils during the 1990-91 school year to reflect 10 the change in the definition of resident enrollment contained in 11 this amendatory and supplementary act. All of the expenses of 12 and aid for a county vocational school district or a county special 13 services school district shall be reallocated to the districts of 14 residence on a per pupil basis. Aid paid on behalf of receiving 15 districts pursuant to N.J.S.18A:66-33 and N.J.S.18A:66-66 shall 16 be reallocated to districts of residence on a per pupil basis. Aid 17 payments pursuant to N.J.S.18A:66-66 shall be estimated for 18 each district.] Each county special services school district's net 19 budget for the purposes of calculating the budget growth 20 limitation in section 85 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-28) for the 21 1991-92 school year shall be established by the commissioner. 22 23

(cf: P.L.1990, c.52, s.86)

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- 21. Section 87 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-31) is amended to read as follows:
- 87. [a. For the 1991-92 school year, the minimum equalized local school tax rate for current expense and capital outlay in special needs districts shall be calculated as follows:

If TR FR, then LL = FR;

If TR < FR and TR VM, then LL = TR;

If TR < FR and TR < VM, then LL = FR or VM, whichever is less; where

TR is the district's equalized school tax rate for current expense and capital outlay in the prebudget year;

FR is the quotient resulting from the division of district's local fair share as determined pursuant to section 7 of this amendatory and supplementary act by the district's equalized valuation for the prebudget year;

LL is the district's minimum equalized local school tax rate for current expense and capital outlay; and

VM is the property value multiplier as determined pursuant to section 8 of this amendatory and supplementary act.

- b. For the 1992-93 school year and thereafter, the minimum local school tax rate for current expense and capital outlay in special needs districts shall be determined in accordance with the plan established pursuant to section 89 of this amendatory and supplementary act.
- c. As used in this section equalized school tax rate means the sum of the district's local levies for current expense and capital

outlay for the prebudget year divided by the district's equalized valuation for the year prior to the prebudget year.]

For the 1991-92 through the 1994-95 school years, the minimum tax levy for current expense and capital outlay in special needs school districts shall equal the lesser of the district's local fair share as determined pursuant to section 7 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-7) or the sum of the district's 1990-91 levies for current expense and capital outlay. Beginning with the 1995-96 school year, the minimum tax levy for current expense and capital outlay shall equal the district's local fair share.

(cf: P.L.1990, c.52, s.87)

- 22. Section 3 of P.L.1979, c.294 (C.18A:22-8.2) is amended to read as follows:
 - 3. No transfer may be made under this section from appropriations or surplus accounts for:
 - a. Interest and debt redemption charges;
 - b. Capital reserve account;
 - c. Items classified as current expenses except to other items so classified or to capital outlay;
 - d. Items classified as capital outlay except to other items so classified or to current expense.
- 22 (cf: P.L.1990, c.52, s.44)
 - 23. Section 3 of P.L.1971, c.271 (C.18A:46-31) is amended to read as follows:
 - 3. a. Any school established pursuant to [this act] P.L.1971, c.271 (C.18A:46-29 et seq.) shall accept all eligible pupils within the county, so far as facilities permit. Pupils residing outside the county may be accepted should facilities be available only after provision has been made for all eligible pupils within the county. Any child accepted shall be classified pursuant to chapter 46 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.
 - b. The board of education of any county special services school district may receive such funds as may be appropriated by the county pursuant to section 13 of P.L.1971, c.271 (C.18A:46-41) and shall be entitled to collect and receive from the sending districts in which the pupils attending the county special services school reside, for the tuition of such pupils, a sum not to exceed the [lesser of:
 - (1) the actual cost per pupil as determined for each special education category, according to rules prescribed by the commissioner and approved by the State board [; or
 - (2) the foundation amount per pupil plus the appropriate per pupil special education aid]. Whenever funds have been appropriated by the county, the county special services school district may charge a fee in addition to tuition for any pupils who are not residents of the county. The fee shall not exceed the amount of the county's per pupil appropriation to the county special services school district. For each special education category, the tuition shall be at the same rate per pupil for each

sending district whether within or without the county. Ten percent of the tuition amount and the nonresident fee amount, if any, shall be paid on the first of each month from September to June to the receiving district by each sending district. The annual aggregate amount of all tuition may be anticipated by the board of education of the county special services school district with respect to the annual budget of the county special services school district. The amounts of all annual payments or tuition to be paid by any such other school district shall be raised in each year in the annual budget of such other school district and paid to the county special services school district.

- c. The board of education of any county special services school district, with the approval of the board of chosen freeholders of the county, may provide for the establishment, maintenance and operation of dormitory and other boarding care facilities for pupils in conjunction with any one or more of its schools for special services, and the board shall provide for the establishment, maintenance and operation of such health care services and facilities for the pupils as the board shall deem necessary.
- [d. The State shall deduct from each sending district's foundation aid and special education aid an amount equal to the foundation aid and special education aid payable to the district for each county special services school district pupil, and shall pay that amount to the board of education of the county special services school district on behalf of the sending district. In the event that the amount deducted is less than the tuition due pursuant to subsection b. of this section, the county special services school district shall advise the board of education of the sending district of the total amount due and the balance due after deducting the aid payable by the State pursuant to this subsection. This balance shall be paid by the board of education of the sending district. All payments shall be made pursuant to the schedule established by subsection b. of this section.]

 (cf: P.L.1990, c.52, s.60)
- 24. Section 71 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:54-20.1) is amended to read as follows:
- 71. a. The board of education of each school district or regional school district in any county in which there is a county vocational school district shall send to any of the schools of the county vocational school district each pupil who resides in the school district or regional school district and who has applied for admission to and has been accepted for attendance at any of the schools of the county vocational school district. The board of education shall pay tuition for each of these pupils to the county vocational school district pursuant to subsection c. of this section. The provisions of this section shall not apply to the board of education of a school district or regional school district maintaining a vocational school or schools pursuant to article 2 of

chapter 54 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

- b. The board of education of a county vocational school district shall receive pupils from districts without the county so far as their facilities may permit.
- c. The board of education of a county vocational school district shall receive such funds as may be appropriated by the county pursuant to N.J.S.18A:54-29.2 and shall be entitled to collect and receive from the sending districts in which each pupil attending the vocational school resides, for the tuition of that pupil, except for a post-secondary vocational education pupil, a sum not to exceed the [lesser of:
- (1) the] actual cost per pupil as determined for each vocational program classification, according to rules prescribed by the commissioner and approved by the State board [; or
- (2) the weighted per pupil foundation amount established for the pupil's vocational program classification, according to the provisions of section 6 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-6)]. Whenever funds have been appropriated by the county, the county vocational school district may charge a fee in addition to tuition for any pupils who are not residents of the county. The fee shall not exceed the amount of the county's per pupil appropriation to the county vocational school district.
- d. The tuition and nonresident fee, if any, shall be established not later than January 15 in advance of the school year by the board of education. The tuition for each program category shall be at the same rate per pupil for each sending district whether within or without the county, and 10% of the tuition amount and nonresident fee, if any, shall be paid on the first of each month from September to June by or on behalf of the board of education of each sending district.
- e. [The State shall deduct from each sending district's foundation aid and special education aid an amount equal to the foundation aid and special education aid payable to the district for each county vocational school pupil, and shall pay that amount to the board of education of the county vocational school district on behalf of the sending district. In the event that the amount deducted is less than the tuition due pursuant to subsection c. of this section, the county vocational school district shall advise the board of education of the sending district of the total amount due and the balance due after deducting the aid payable by the State pursuant to this subsection. This balance shall be paid by the board of education of the sending district. All payments shall be made pursuant to the schedule established by subsection d. of this section.] (Deleted by amendment, P.L. , c. now pending before the Legislature as this bill)
- 46 (cf: P.L.1990, c.52, s.71)
 - 25. Section 73 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:54-20.2) is amended to read as follows:
 - 73. A county vocational school district and a county special

services school district shall be eligible to receive State aid for debt service pursuant to section 18 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-22). For the purpose of calculating this aid, the district's maximum foundation budget shall be the sum of the maximum foundation budgets of all [the] other districts in the county and the district's local fair share shall be the sum of the local fair shares of all the districts in the county.

(cf: P.L.1990, c.52, s.73)

26. (New section) In addition to the funds payable to each county vocational school district pursuant to sections 4, 14, 25, 73, 80 and 81 of P.L.1990, c.52 and sections 29 and 30 of P.L., c. (C.) (now pending before the Legislature as this bill), each county vocational school district shall be paid State aid for county vocational school programs as follows:

 $A = F \times V$

where

A is the county vocational school district's aid for its vocational programs;

F is the State foundation amount as defined pursuant to section 6 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-6); and

V is the number of pupil units for county vocational school pupils other than county vocational school special education services pupils, except that pupils receiving supplementary, speech and home instruction services shall be eligible for this aid. The number of pupil units shall be based on the following:

Program Weight

Secondary .26

 Post-Secondary .13

Aid for pupils attending shared-time secondary programs shall be determined by reducing the weight by one-half.

For the 1991-92 school year, the weight for post-secondary pupils shall be the same as the secondary weight set forth above.

- 27. (New section) For the 1991-92 school year, in the event the total State aid determined for a county vocational school district pursuant to sections 4, 14, 80 and 81 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-4, 16, 20 and 21) and section 26 of P.L. , c. (C.)(now pending before the Legislature as this bill), exceeds 150% of the base aid amount for the district as defined in section 25 of P.L.1990, c.52 C.18A:7D-33), the total State aid for the district shall be reduced to 150% of the base aid amount.
 - 28. N.J.S.18A:66-33 is amended to read as follows:

18A:66-33. Regular interest charges payable, the creation and maintenance of reserves in the contingent reserve fund and the maintenance of retirement allowances and other benefits granted by the board of trustees under the provisions of this article are hereby made obligations of each employer. Except as provided in

N.J.S.18A:66-27, all income, interest, and dividends derived from deposits and investments authorized by this article shall be used for payment of these obligations.

Upon the basis of each actuarial determination and appraisal provided for in this article, the board of trustees shall annually certify, on or before [the date of the Governor's annual budget message] December 1st of each year, to the Commissioner of Education, the State Treasurer, and to each employer, including the State, the contributions due on behalf of its employees for the ensuing fiscal year and payable by the employer to the contingent reserve fund. The amounts payable into contingent reserve fund for each employer, including the State, shall be paid by the State Treasurer, upon the certification of the commissioner and the warrant of the Director of the Division of Budget and Accounting, to the contingent reserve fund not later than July 1 of the ensuing fiscal year. The commissioner shall deduct the amount so certified from any State aid payable to the employer. In the event that no State aid is payable to the employer or in the event that the amount deducted is less than the amount certified as due, the commissioner shall certify the net amount due on behalf of the members to the chief fiscal officer of the employer. Each employer shall pay the net amount due, if any, to the State pursuant to a payment schedule established by the commissioner. The payment schedule shall provide for interest penalties for late payments.

(cf: P.L.1990, c.52, s.78)

- 29. (New section) For the 1991-92 and 1992-93 school years each employer, as defined in N.J.S.18A:66-2, shall receive State aid in an amount equal to the contribution due on behalf of its employees for the ensuing fiscal year and payable by the employer to the contingent reserve fund in accordance with N.J.S.18A:66-33.
- 30. (New section) For the 1991-92 and 1992-93 school years, each employer as defined in N.J.S.18A:66-2 shall be reimbursed by the State for the social security contributions for members of the Teachers Pension and Annuity Fund. Such reimbursement shall be limited to contributions upon compensation upon which members contributions to the retirement system are based.
- 31. (New section) For the 1991-92 school year, in counties of the third class which do not have a county vocational school district, in addition to the funds payable pursuant to sections 4, 14, 16, 25, 73, 80 and 81 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-1 et al.) and sections 29 and 30 of P.L., c. (C.) (now pending before the Legislature as this bill), to a district which was designated as a local area vocational school district pursuant to section 3 of P.L.1975, c.212 (C.18A:7A-3) prior to the 1990-91 school year, each district shall also be paid State aid in an amount equal to the support the district received during the 1990-91 school year for local vocational pupils pursuant to section 20 of P.L.1975,

c.212 (C.18A:7A-20).

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- 32. (New section) For the 1991-92 and 1992-1993 school year, no district's State aid for programs for at-risk pupils shall be less than the amount of categorical program support the district received in the 1990-91 school year pursuant to section 20 of P.L.1975, c.212 (C.18A:7A-20) for state compensatory education pupils.
- 33. (New section) a. For the 1991-92 and 1992-93 school years, if the Commissioner of Education or the board of education of a special needs school district determines that the special needs school district cannot utilize the full amount of the difference between its State aid entitlement under P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-1 et al.) for the budget year and its State aid entitlement for the 1990-91 school year under P.L.1975, c.212 (C.18A:7A-1 et seq.), the commissioner, or the board of education of the special needs district, with the approval of the commissioner, may place up to 20 percent of that difference in State aid in a special escrow account to be established by the State Treasurer.
- b. There is established within the General Fund a dedicated account to be known as the "Special Needs Districts Educational Fund." Any interest earned by the account shall accrue to the State and shall be credited to the General Fund. The Treasurer shall deposit into the account any funds which are put into escrow for a special needs school district pursuant to subsection a. of Beginning on October 1, 1991 and annually this section. thereafter, the Treasurer shall advise the commissioner and each special needs school district of the amount of funds being held in escrow for each school district. A special needs school district may, with the approval of the commissioner, withdraw and expend funds from its escrow account at any time upon presentation to the commissioner of a plan for the use of the funds for operating expenses or for the renovation and repair of educational facilities.
- c. Any funds placed in escrow by a special needs school district and any withdrawal or expenditure of those funds shall not be utilized for the calculation of the district's State aid entitlements in any subsequent year and shall not be used to reduce or offset those entitlements.
- 34. (New section) Not withstanding any statute, rule or regulation promulgated by the State Board of Education, special needs districts may contract with New Jersey colleges and universities to provide in school, after school and special academic programs and services to assist the districts in providing a thorough and efficient education. The Chancellor of Higher Education shall prepare on or before July 1 of each year a report of programs and services available from New Jersey colleges and universities to assist special needs districts. The report shall be distributed to the commissioner and to the special

needs districts.

- 35. (New section) In a county of the third class which did not have a county vocational school district as of September 1, 1990, the board of education of a county vocational school district in such a county is authorized and empowered to undertake and to enter into agreements of any nature whatsoever necessary, desirable, useful or convenient for and with respect to the operation, or administration by the county assumption, vocational school district of any system of vocational education then being maintained in the county, including, but not limited to, the transfer of principals, teachers, employees, pupils or classes, the purchase, grant, transfer or lease to the county vocational school district of any lands, schools buildings, furnishings, equipment, apparatus or supplies constituting part of or used in connection with that system, and the making of or provision for payments, costs or expenses in connection with any of the aforesaid. A copy of any such agreement shall be filed in the office of the commissioner.
- 36. (New section) Each State college operating a college demonstration school or classes for handicapped children shall be paid State aid for one-half of the costs of operating the educational program less the special education aid payable, pursuant to section 14 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-16), to the district in which the State college demonstration school is located.
- 37. Section 21 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-26) is amended to read as follows:
- 21. Annually, on or before December 15 the commissioner shall notify each district of the maximum amount of aid payable to the district under the provisions of [this amendatory and supplementary act] P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-1 et al.) in the succeeding year and shall notify each district that is subject to the provisions of section 85 of [this amendatory and supplementary act] P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-28) of the district's maximum permissible [local levy] net budget for the succeeding year. The actual aid payment to each district shall be determined after the district's budget is adopted.

(cf: P.L.1990, c.52, s.21)

38. (New section) Annually, there shall be appropriated to the Department of Education an amount equal to .00224 multiplied by the amount of maximum State school aid as defined pursuant to section 3 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-3) in order to enable the commissioner to meet the State mandate for the monitoring, evaluation, budget review and analysis and the collection of expenditure data for school districts as required pursuant to P.L.1975, c.212 (C.18A:7A-1 et seq.) and sections 1, 5 and 6 of P.L.1991, c.3 (C.18A:7A-14.1, 18A:7A-6.1 and 18A:7A-14.2) in order to ensure that school districts are providing a thorough and efficient education to their students.

39. (New section) There is established within the Department of Education a special account into which the State Treasurer shall deposit \$25,000,000. The Commissioner of Education shall utilize the monies in the fund for supplemental State aid to school districts in order to ensure the continuation of educational quality during the period of transition to the new State aid program established pursuant to P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-1 et al.). Any supplemental State aid provided to a school district from this account shall not be included in the calculation of the spending limitations established pursuant to section 85 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-28).

40. The following sections are repealed:

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P.L.1990, c.52, s.5 (18A:7D-5) P.L.1990, c.52, s.83 (18A:7D-11) P.L.1990, c.52, s.88 (18A:7D-12)

41. This act shall take effect immediately.

Statement to Senate Floor substitute

STATEMENT

This floor substitute makes a number of changes in the Quality Education Act of 1990. Some of the changes are permanent and some are designed to modify the law during the period of transition between current funding and the new system.

Among the permanent changes are the elimination of the necessity for districts to tax at their fair share in order to receive full State foundation aid; the elimination of the provision that required school districts to increase their tax levies over a five year period; and, a modification of the amount of excess surplus which will be deducted from a district's foundation aid from 15% to 7.5% and requires districts to develop a surplus expenditure plan. Also, the substitute provides for direct funding of county special services school districts and county vocational school districts, changes the tuition formula for those districts, and provides for a categorical aid factor for county vocational schools and debt service aid for county special services school districts. The substitute also reduces the maximum increase in a district's budget which will be eligible for aid from 130% over the prior year to 120%. Further, the substitute changes the "local fair share" definition for special needs school districts to the State average equalized school tax rate for current expense and capital outlay. It also provides that for the 1991-92 through 1994-95 school years, the minimum school tax levy for special needs districts shall equal the districts fair share or the school tax levy for the 1990-91 school year.

The substitute also establishes a new limitation on the growth of a district's net budget, which is all State aid under the QEA (exclusive of pension aid) and local levies. For two years, the "cap" percentage would range from 7.5% to 9%. The cap for

special needs districts will be determined by an equity spending cap which may be in excess of the basic cap. The substitute also provides for voter approval in type II school districts for expenditures in excess of the cap.

In addition, the substitute establishes a State school aid inflator the value of which, for the 1991-92 school year is \$4.250 billion and which will increase annually by the sum of the PCI and 1.01, and provides that maximum State school aid will equal 80% of the inflator. However, beginning in the 1993-94 school year, the Governor may increase maximum State school aid up to the value of the State school aid inflator.

For the 1991-92 school year, the substitute reduces maximum State school aid to \$4.1 billion and adjusts the State foundation amount to \$6640 and the facilities factor to \$107.

In terms of provisions which are transitional in nature, the substitute provides for the State assumption of Teachers' Pension and Social Security costs for a two year period, and makes those adjustments necessary to accomplish this.

The substitute also adjusts the at-risk cost factors, and further provides that for the 1991-92 and 1992-93 school years, no school district will receive less for at-risk pupils than the district received for compensatory education pupils in the current year.

EDUCATION

Makes a number of permanent and temporary revisions in the QEA.

SENATE, No. 3230

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED JANUARY 14, 1991

By Senator LYNCH

AN ACT providing for the calculation and distribution of State aid for education for the 1991-92 and 1992-93 school years.

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

1. For the purposes of this act:

"Resident Enrollment" shall mean the number of pupils who, on the last school day prior to October 16 of the prebudget year, are residents of the district and are enrolled in: (1) the public schools of the district, including evening schools; (2) another school district, State college demonstration school or private school to which the district of residence pays tuition; (3) a State facility; or (4) are receiving home instruction.

Handicapped children between three and five years of age and receiving programs and services pursuant to N.J.S.18A:46-6 shall be included in the resident enrollment of the district.

"School District" shall mean any local or regional school district, any county vocational school district and any county special services school district.

The Commissioner of Education shall make those adjustments in each school district's maximum foundation budget pursuant to section 6 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-6), adjusted income pursuant to section 9 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-9), State aid for transportation, pursuant to section 16 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-18) and transition aid pursuant to section 25 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-33) which are necessary to implement the definition of "Resident enrollment" and "School district" established by this act.

- 2. For the 1991-92 and 1992-93 school years, in order to be eligible to receive the maximum State foundation aid to which a school district is entitled pursuant to the provisions of section 4 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-4) and the provisions of this act, a school district shall not be required to adopt a school tax levy for current expense and capital outlay greater than the district's school tax levy for current expense and capital outlay in the prebudget year.
- 3. For the 1991-92 and 1992-93 school years, the local school budget of a school district which is not a special needs school district shall not exceed the district's local school budget for the prebudget year by more than 8½ percent. The local school budget of a school district which is a special needs school district shall not exceed the district's local school budget for the prebudget year by more than 13½ percent.

 For the purposes of this section, "local school budget" means the sum of all State aid received by a school district pursuant to sections 4, 14, 16, 25, 80 and 81 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-4, 16, 18, 33, 20 and 21) and sections 5, 8 and 10 of this act, and the district's local levy for current expense and capital outlay exclusive of debt service.

For the purposes of determining the budget limitation for the 1991–92 school year as established pursuant to this section, the district's 1990–91 local school budget shall equal the sum of the district's budget for current expense and capital outlay, exclusive of debt service, federal funds, appropriations from free balances and miscellaneous revenue, and inclusive of State aid for handicapped pupils pursuant to section 20 of P.L.1975, c.212 (C.18A:7A-20); State aid for approved transportation, State equalization support and budgeted capital outlay support; State support for bilingual education, compensatory education and local vocational education; and, the amount provided for by local taxation.

- 4. a. If a board of education of a type II school district without a board of school estimate adopts a local school budget which is in excess of the local school budget authorized pursuant to section 3 of this act, the board shall submit the question of the authorization of those excess expenditures to the voters of the school district for their approval or disapproval at the annual school election. Voter disapproval of the excess expenditures shall be deemed final, and shall not be subject to the review and appeal process extablished pursuant to N.J.S.18A:22-37, unless the board can demonstrate that it anticipates an extraordinary increase in enrollment in the district.
- b. If a board of school estimate of a type II school district with a board of school estimate adopts a local school budget which is in excess of the local school budget authorized pursuant to section 3 of this act, or if the board of education of that district appeals the board of school estimate's determination to the commissioner and the commissioner approves an appropriation in excess of the permitted local school budget, the board of education shall submit the question of the authorization of those excess expenditures to the voters of the school district for their approval or disapproval at the annual school election. Voter disapproval of the excess expenditures shall be deemed final, and shall not be subject to further review and appeal unless the board can demonstrate that it anticipates an extraordinary increase in enrollment in the district.
- c. If a board of school estimate of a type I school district adopts a local school budget which is in excess of the local school budget authorized pursuant to section 3 of this act, or if the board of education of that district appeals the board of school estimate's determination to the commissioner and the commissioner approves an appropriation in excess of the permitted local school budget, the municipal governing body shall

submit the question of the authorization of those excess expenditures to the voters of the school district for their approval or disapproval at a special election which shall be held no later than the date of the annual school election in type II school districts. Voter disapproval of the excess expenditures shall be deemed final, and shall not be subject to further review and appeal unless the board can demonstrate that it anticipates an extraordinary increase in enrollment in the district.

5. The board of education of a county special services school district shall be eligible to receive State foundation aid pursuant to section 4 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-4) as adjusted pursuant to section 3 of this act. This aid shall be calculated as follows:

FA = MFB x (CMB - CFS)/CMB where

FA is the district's foundation aid;

MBF is the districts maximum foundation budget as determined pursuant to section 5 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-5);

CMB is the sum of the maximum foundation budgets of all the district's in the county; and,

CFS is the sum of the local fair shares of all the districts in the county.

- 6. For the purposes of this act:.
- a. Any county special services school district shall accept all eligible pupils within the county, so far as facilities permit. Pupils residing outside the county may be accepted should facilities be available only after provision has been made for all eligible pupils within the county. Any child accepted shall be classified pursuant to chapter 46 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.
- b. The board of education of any county special services school district and the board of education of any other school district within the county thereof are each hereby authorized and empowered to undertake and to enter into agreements with respect to the attendance at schools of the special services school district, of residents or pupils of these other school district and as to the payments to be made or the rate of tuition to be charged on account of these students. Payments shall be made quarterly to the receiving district by each sending district. The payment or rate of tuition per student shall not exceed 50% of the pro rata annual cost of the operation and maintenance of the county special services school district remaining after deduction from that cost of all amounts of aid received by the county special services school district or the county thereof on account of the district or credited thereto from the State of New Jersey or the United States of America or agencies thereof, but excluding from that cost any amount on account of required payments of interest or principal on bonds or notes of the county issued for the purpose of the district. The annual aggregate amount of all of these payments or tuition may be anticipated by the board of education of the county special services school

district and by the board of chosen freeholders of the county with respect to the annual budget of the county special services school district. The amounts of all annual payments or tuition to be paid by any such other school district shall be raised in each year in the annual budget of such other school district and paid to the county special services school district.

- 7. a. Between March 25 and April 8 of the years 1991 and 1992, the board of school estimate of a county special services school district shall fix and determine by official action taken at a public meeting of the board the amount of money necessary to be appropriated for the use of the county special services school district for the ensuing school year exclusive of the amount to be received from the State as provided in section 5 of this act.
- b. The board of school estimate shall, on or before April 8 in each of these years, make two certificates of the amount, signed by at least three of its members, one of which certificate shall be delivered to the board of education of the county special services school district and the other to the board of chosen freeholders of the county.
- c. The board of chosen freeholders shall, upon receipt of the certificate, appropriate, in the same manner as other appropriations are made by it, the amount so certified, and the amount shall be assessed, levied, and collected in the same manner as moneys appropriated for other purposes in the county are assessed, levied, and collected.
- 8. The board of education of a county vocational school district shall be eligible to receive State foundation aid pursuant to section 4 of P.L. 1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-4) as adjusted pursuant to section 3 of this act. This aid shall be calculated as follows:

 $FA = MFB \times (CMB - CFS)/CMB$ where

FA is the district's foundation aid;

MBF is the districts maximum foundation budget as determined pursuant to section 5 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-5);

CMB is the sum of the maximum foundation budgets of all the district's in the county; and,

CFS is the sum of the local fair shares of all the districts in the county.

- 9. Between March 25 and April 8 of the years 1991 and 1992, the board of school estimate of a county vocational school district shall fix and determine by action taken at a public meeting of the board the amount of money necessary to be appropriated for the use of the county vocational school district for the ensuing school year exclusive of the amount to be received from the State as provided in section 8 of this act.
- 10. Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 14, 80 and 81 of P.L.1990, c.52 (C.18A:7D-16, 20 and 21), special education aid, aid for programs for at-risk pupils and bilingual education aid for pupils attending a county vocational school or a county special services school district shall be credited and paid to the board of

education of the county special services school district and county vocational school district.

11. This act shall take effect immediately, shall be applicable to the 1991-92 and 1992-93 school years and shall expire on July 1, 1993.

STATEMENT

This bill, which applies to the 1991-92 and 1992-93 school years, makes a number of revisions in the manner in which State aid for education will be distributed.

The bill provides that the increase in school districts' budgets will be limited to 8½ percent for non-special needs districts and 13½ percent for special needs districts. If a board of education adopts a budget with a greater increase in spending, the board will be required to submit the question of excess spending to the voters of the district at the annual school election, or, in the case of a type I district, at a special election. Voter rejection of the excess expenditures would be final, and would not be subject to appeal to the commissioner.

The bill also provides that, in order to receive maximum state foundation aid, a district will not have to raise its school tax levy above the levy for the current year.

Also, the bill reestablishes county vocational school districts and county special services school districts for the purposes of determining State aid entitlements. The districts' maximum foundation budget would be determined based upon the resident enrollment of those districts, and all State aid would be credited to and paid to the county school districts.

EDUCATION

Makes certain temporary revisions in the calculation and distribution of State aid for education.

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 3230

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JANUARY 24, 1991

The Senate Education Committee favorably reports this bill with committee amendments.

As amended, this bill, which applies to the 1991-92 and 1992-93 school years, makes a number of revisions in the manner in which State aid for education will be distributed.

The bill provides that the increase in school districts' budgets will be limited to 8½ percent for non-special needs districts and 13½ percent for special needs districts. The district may apply to the Commissioner of Education for a cap waiver if the district has had an increase in enrollment or in local costs for special education of more than 5 percent. For all other increases in excess of the budget cap, if a board of education adopts a budget with a greater increase in spending, the board will be required to submit the question of excess spending to the voters of the district at the annual school election, or, in the case of a type I district, at a special election. Voter rejection of the excess expenditures would be final, and would not be subject to appeal to the commissioner. If approved, a district would not be eligible for State aid based upon the excess expenditures.

The bill also provides that, in order to receive maximum state foundation aid, a district will not have to raise its school tax levy above the levy for the current year. In addition, the bill provides that the State will pay the cost of teachers' pensions and social security for a two year period.

Also, the bill reestablishes county vocational school districts and county special services school districts for the purposes of determining State aid entitlements. The determination of districts' maximum foundation budget would be based upon the resident enrollment of those districts, and all State aid would be credited to and paid to the county school districts.

The committee amended the bill to provide for a hold harmless for those districts which would have lost a disproportionate amount of their share of the increase in State aid under the bill's budget caps. If a district receives less than .995% of its proportionate share, it will receive supplemental state aid to make up the difference. This supplemental aid will not be included in the budget cap.

The amendments also provide for the State resumption of teachers' pension and social security costs, permit the Commissioner of Education to waive the budget cap if there is an increase of more than five percent in enrollment or special education costs, and clarify that expenditures over the cap will not entitle a district to additional State aid.