

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

HJSA 18A:58-37.5 - 18A:58-37.6a (Textbooks - Equal expenditures in public and nonpublic schools)

LAWS OF 1979 CHAPTER 194

Bill No. A3295

Sponsor(s) Jackman and others

Date Introduced May 3, 1979

Committee: Assembly _____

Senate Education

Amended during passage Yes xix Amendments during passage denoted by asterisks

Date of Passage: Assembly May 10, 1979

Senate June 14, 1979

Date of approval Sept. 13, 1979

Following statements are attached if available:

Sponsor statement	Yes	xix (Below)
Committee Statement: Assembly	xix	ii
Senate	Yes	xix
Fiscal Note	xix	ii
Veto message	xix	ii
Message on signing	Yes	xx

Following were printed:

Reports	xix	No
Hearings	xix	ii

Sponsor's statement:

The purpose of this bill is to provide for an equal expenditure for textbooks provided to students attending public and non-public schools. The current level of expenditure for the cost of textbooks for public school students has reached \$15.20. At present, expenditures for students enrolled in non-public schools may not exceed an average of \$10.00.

9/1/79

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ASSEMBLY, No. 3295

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED MAY 3, 1979

By Assemblymen JACKMAN, LITTELL, T. GALLO, McMANIMON, STOCKMAN, BURSTEIN, DEVERIN, LESNIAK, COSTELLO, OTLOWSKI, MAGUIRE, PELLECCIA, PATERO, BORNHEIMER, FORTUNATO, BATE, MARTIN, CALI, GIRGENTI, VILLANE, ALBANESE, JANISZEWSKI, ADUBATO, Assemblywoman KIERNAN, Assemblymen VAN WAGNER, MAYS, GEWERTZ, KARCHER, Assemblywoman McCONNELL, Assemblymen FLYNN, KAVANAUGH, SMITH, Assemblywoman BURGIO, Assemblyman ORECHIO, Assemblywomen CROCE, BERMAN, SCANLON, Assemblymen VISOTCKY, HERMAN, Assemblywoman TOTARO, Assemblymen CONTILLO, GORMAN, MATTHEWS, Assemblywoman GARVIN, Assemblyman DOYLE, Assemblywoman CURRAN and Assemblyman CODEY

(Without Reference)

AN ACT to amend and supplement "An act providing for the purchase and loan of textbooks to students attending public and nonpublic schools and supplementing chapter 234 of the laws of 1970," approved August 5, 1974 (P. L. 1974, c. 79).

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

1 1. Section 5 of P. L. 1974, c. 79 (C. 18A:58-37.5) is amended to
2 read as follows:

3 5. The commissioner shall, upon request of the local board and
4 pursuant to the rules and regulations of the State Board of
5 Education distribute to each school district an amount equal to
6 the cost of textbooks purchased and loaned by the school district
7 pursuant to this act, but in no event shall the aid appropriated to
8 the district exceed the following **[amounts]** amount:

8A ***a. The expenditures for the purchase of textbooks pursuant*
8B *to this act made during the school year 1979-80 shall not exceed an*
8C *average of \$10.00 for each student residing in the district, who, on*

EXPLANATION—Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

8D September 30 of the preceding school year was enrolled in grades
8E kindergarten through 12 of a public or nonpublic school; and,**

9 [a. The expenditures for the purchase of textbooks pursuant to
10 this act made during the school year 1974-75, the school year 1975-
11 76, the school year 1976-77 shall not exceed an average of \$15.00
12 for each student residing in the district, who, on the last day of
13 September of the preceding school year were enrolled in grades
14 kindergarten through 12 of a public or nonpublic school: and]

15 [b.] ****b.**** The expenditures for the purchase of textbooks made
16 during the school year 1980-81, and in any subsequent year shall
17 [not exceed an average of \$10.00] ****[be equal to]**** ****not ex-**
18 **ceed**** the State average **budgeted textbook* expense per public*
19 *school pupil *for the prebudget year** for each student residing in
20 the district, who, on September 30 of the preceding school year was
21 enrolled in grades kindergarten through 12 of a ****[public]**** ****pub-**
22 **lic**** or nonpublic school.

1 2. Section 6 of P. L. 1974, c. 79 (C. 18A:58-37.6) is amended to
2 read as follows:

3 6. State aid provided pursuant to the [State School Incentive
4 Equalization Aid Law (N. J. S. 18A:58-1 et seq.) in the school
5 years 1974-75, 1975-76, 1976-77] *“Public School Education Act of*
6 *1975,” P. L. 1975, c. 212 (18A:7A-1 et seq.)* may be expended for
7 the purchase and loan of textbooks for public school pupils ****[on**
8 **an average of \$15.00]**** ****in an amount which shall not exceed the**
9 **State average budgeted textbook expense for the prebudget year****
10 per pupil in resident enrollment ****[and in any subsequent school**
11 **year such State aid may be expended on an average of \$10.00 per**
12 **pupil in resident enrollment]****. Nothing contained herein shall
13 prohibit a board of education in any district from purchasing
14 textbooks in excess of the amounts provided pursuant to this act.

1 3. (New section) a. Beginning in the school year 1981-82 and in
2 each subsequent year, the amount of State aid per pupil pursuant to
3 this act shall increase by the percentage increase in the State
4 average **budgeted textbook* expense per public school pupil.*

5 b. Annually, by November 1, the commissioner shall determine
6 the State average **budgeted textbook* expenditures per public*
7 *school pupil.*

1 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 3295

[OFFICIAL COPY REPRINT]

with Senate committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MAY 24, 1979

PROVISIONS:

The Senate Education Committee favorably reports this bill which will increase the amount which may be expended for the purchase and loan of textbooks for public and nonpublic school pupils. The current amount is \$10.00 per pupil. Under Assembly Bill No. 3295, the fixed dollar amount would be replaced in 1980-81 by a per pupil formula based upon the State average budgeted textbook expense per public school pupil.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

Using current year figures, this bill would require approximately \$1,000,000.00 in addition to the \$2,130,000.00 currently appropriated for this purpose.

BACKGROUND:

When P. L. 1974, c. 79 was enacted the amount of aid was set at \$15.00 per pupil for the first 3 years and \$10.00 per pupil thereafter. Since that time, the cost of textbooks has risen considerably. Assembly Bill No. 3295 is intended to reflect those costs and to provide for future adjustment as costs for textbooks fluctuate.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The Senate Education Committee amendments are technical in nature. They provide for the statutory authorization of the expenditure of funds pursuant to P. L. 1974, c. 79 in fiscal 1980; and, they ensure the maintenance of equity by providing for State aid for textbooks for public school pupils in the same amount as provided for nonpublic school pupils.

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

SEPTEMBER 13, 1979

KATHRYN FORSYTH

Governor Brendan Byrne today signed four bills in a public ceremony in his office.

A-3295, sponsored by Assembly Speaker Christopher J. Jackman (D-Hudson), which provides for an equal state expenditure for textbooks provided to students in public and non-public schools.

The bill amends a 1974 law, which provided state aid for textbooks to children in non-public schools not to exceed \$15 per pupil for the school years 1974-75, 1975-76 and 1976-77 and \$10 per pupil in subsequent years.

Under A-3295, the \$10 limitation will be continued for the 1979-80 school year, but the formula will be revised for the 1980-81 school year and subsequent years to be equal to the state average budgeted textbook expense per public school pupil for the pre-budgeted year.

This amount is currently \$15 per pupil and, according to Department of Education estimates, will probably remain constant for the 1980-81 school year, since declining enrollments will offset inflationary cost increases.

"This bill recognizes the effects of inflation on the costs of textbooks and permits state aid for textbooks to non-public school students to increase at the same rate as the aid for public school students," Byrne said.

There are approximately 210,000 non-public school students in New Jersey, and the estimated cost for the implementation of the bill is one million dollars.

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