

18A:7A 20

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

(School districts to receive State categorical aid for children in resource room programs)

NJSA 18A:7A-20

Laws of 1977 Chapter 445

Bill No. S3155

Sponsor(s) Dumont, McGahn

Date Introduced March 21, 1977

Committee: Assembly Education

Senate Education, Revenue, Finance & Appropriations

Amended during passage Yes ~~No~~ Amendments during passage denoted by asterisks

Date of passage: Assembly Nov. 28, 1977

Senate June 27, 1977

Date of approval March 2, 1978

Following statements are attached if available:

Sponsor statement Yes ~~No~~ Below

Committee Statement: Assembly Yes ~~No~~

Senate Yes ~~No~~

Fiscal Note ~~Yes~~ No

Veto message ~~Yes~~ No

Message on signing ~~Yes~~ No

Following were printed:

Reports ~~Yes~~ No

Hearings ~~Yes~~ No

Sponsor's Statement:

This bill requires that an additional cost factor for children enrolled in resource room programs be included in the calculation of categorical program aid in chapter 212 of the laws of 1975. In addition, this bill deletes language that limits the calculation of such aid programs to 1975-76 and 1976-77.

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**SENATE, No. 3155**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

INTRODUCED MARCH 21, 1977

By Senators DUMONT and McGAHN

Referred to Committee on Education

AN ACT to amend **\*\*\*[\*and supplement\*]\*\*\*** the "Public School Education Act of 1975," approved September 29, 1975 (P. L. 1975, c. 212) **\*\*\*[\* , and making an appropriation\*]\*\*\***.

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

1 1. Section 20 of P. L. 1975, c. 212 (C. 18A:7A-20) is amended  
2 to read as follows:

3 20. In addition to the equalization support authorized in section  
4 18 of this act, categorical program support **[for 1975-76 and**  
5 **1976-77]** shall be paid in accordance with the following calculations:

6 a. The number of categorical aid units shall be determined by  
7 adding the products obtained by multiplying the pupils in each  
8 category by the following additional cost factors:

CATEGORICAL PROGRAMS

	Special Education Classes	Additional Cost Factors
9	Educable .....	0.53
10	Trainable .....	0.95
11	Orthopedically handicapped .....	1.27
12	Neurologically impaired .....	1.06
13	Perceptually impaired .....	0.85
14	Visually handicapped .....	1.91
15	Auditorially handicapped .....	1.38
16	Communication handicapped .....	1.06
17	Emotionally disturbed .....	1.27
18	Socially maladjusted .....	0.95
19	Chronically ill .....	0.85
20	Multiply handicapped .....	1.27

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

Other Classes and Services	Additional Cost Factors
21 Approved private school tuition . . . . .	1.0 plus the additional
22	cost factor of the handi-
23	cap
24 Supplementary and speech instruction . . . . .	0.09 based on the num-
25	ber of pupils actually
26	receiving such instruc-
27	tion in the prior school
28	year
29 <i>Resource room</i> . . . . .	*[0.44]* *0.65*
30 Bilingual education . . . . .	0.16
31 State compensatory education . . . . .	0.11
32 Approved local vocational education . . . . .	0.53

33 b. The number of categorical aid units for home instruction shall  
34 be determined by multiplying the number of hours of instruction  
35 actually provided in the prior school year by 0.006.

36 c. For the purposes of this section, aid shall be paid to districts  
37 in which the pupils reside except in the case of home, supplemen-  
38 tary or speech instruction where aid shall be paid to the district  
39 providing the service. No tuition may be charged for such home,  
40 supplementary or speech instruction for costs covered by State  
41 support as provided in this section.

42 d. Categorical program support shall equal the number of units  
43 of additional cost multiplied by the State average net current  
44 expense budget per pupil for the prebudget year.

1 \*\*\*[2. (New section) For the 1977-78, school year the State aid  
2 entitlement for each handicapped pupil placed in a resource room  
3 program established by section 1 of this act shall be subject to  
4 available appropriations, and the commissioner shall prorate the  
5 entitlement of each district accordingly.

1 3. (New section) For the school year 1977-78, State aid entitle-  
2 ments forwarded by the commissioner on January 24, 1977 pursuant  
3 to P. L. 1975, c. 212 shall be adjusted to include categorical pro-  
4 gram support for resource rooms provided by section 2 of this act,  
5 but, the provisions of P. L. 1975, c. 212 notwithstanding, no revisions  
6 shall be made in 1977-78 equalization and categorical aids nor in the  
7 calculations required by section 25 of P. L. 1975, c. 212 as a result  
8 of changes in the net current expense budget of the 1976-77 school  
9 year pursuant to P. L. 1977, c. 41.

1 4. (New section) There is hereby appropriated \*\*from the Prop-  
2 erty Tax Relief Fund the sum of \$8,000,000.00\*\* for the purpose  
3 of this act \*\*[\$8,000,000.00].\*\* \*\*]

1 \*[2.]\* \*\*\*[5.]\* \*\*\*2.\*\*\* This act shall take effect  
2 \*\*\*[immediately]\*\*\* \*\*\*July 1, 1978\*\*\*.

ASSEMBLY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

**SENATE, No. 3155**

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with Assembly committee amendments

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

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DATED: JULY 11, 1977

The Assembly Education Committee favorably reports this bill and supports the Senate Education Committee statement.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

Since local districts have already established their budgets for the 1977-78 school year, the appropriations for the current fiscal year have been deleted.

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE  
STATEMENT TO  
**SENATE, No. 3155**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

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DATED: MAY 10, 1977

**PROVISIONS:**

Senate Bill No. 3155, as amended, will enable school districts to receive State categorical aid for children who are placed in resource room programs. State aid for resource room programs will be based upon a .65 cost factor beginning in the 78-79 school year. For the 77-78 school year Senate Bill No. 3155 limits the appropriation to \$8,000,000.00.

**BACKGROUND:**

Currently there is no permanent statutory authority for school districts to receive State aid for children who are placed in resource room programs. A temporary and executed statute, Chapter 41, P. L. 1977, has permitted school districts to receive State aid for such handicapped children during the 76-77 school year.

Prior to the advent of the resource room, there were only two teaching options available for addressing the needs of handicapped children. (1) A child who was not severely handicapped could be permitted to remain in the regular classroom and provided supplemental instruction in order to help the child keep up with the work required. (2) A child who was not capable of working under the requirements and conditions imposed by any of the regular classes could be placed in a special class that would hopefully be designed to address the specific handicaps.

The resource room was developed to meet the needs of handicapped children who could function part of a day in a regular classroom but also needed special instruction in place of regular instruction for part of the day. For these children, supplemental instruction is not sufficient. The resource room program permits children who would otherwise be in special classes to be "mainstreamed" as much as possible; it is therefore consistent with federal requirements for a least restrictive environment for these children.

**FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:**

In the first year, school year 77-78, State aid to handicapped children placed in resource room programs will cost approximately \$8,000,000.00.

SENATE REVENUE, FINANCE AND APPROPRIATIONS  
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

**SENATE, No. 3155**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: JUNE 16, 1977

This bill will enable school districts to receive State categorical aid for children who are placed in resource room programs. This eligibility is found in a temporary and executed statute, P. L. 1977, chapter 41, applying only to the 1976-77 school year.

By the terms of the bill funding for the 1977-1978 school year is specifically subject to available appropriations. Subsequent funding will be as part of State categorical aid programs.

This bill appropriates \$8 million for the 1977-1978 school year, with the 1978-1979 school year costs estimated by the Department of Education to be \$12 million. The Senate Education Committee makes the observation that a future years savings might be experienced because the children in resource room might otherwise be placed in higher cost special classes. The Senate Revenue, Finance and Appropriations Committee is inclined to concur in that observation on an individual basis although this committee does not foresee direct substitution of special classes with resource rooms on a large scale.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

Committee amendments revise the appropriation clause specifically directing that the \$8 million appropriation in the bill is from the Property Tax Relief Fund.