

# 18A:7F-10.1

## LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

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**LAWS OF:** 2005 **CHAPTER:** 122

**NJSA:** 18A:7F-10.1 (Provides additional State school aid to school districts bordered by at least 3 Abbott districts)

**BILL NO:** S2558 (Substituted for A4145)

**SPONSOR(S):** Sacco and others

**DATE INTRODUCED:** May 19, 2005

**COMMITTEE:** **ASSEMBLY:**  
**SENATE:** Budget and Appropriations

**AMENDED DURING PASSAGE:** Yes

**DATE OF PASSAGE:** **ASSEMBLY:** June 30, 2005

**SENATE:** June 27, 2005

**DATE OF APPROVAL:** July 2, 2005

**FOLLOWING ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:**

[FINAL TEXT OF BILL](#) (1<sup>st</sup> reprint enacted)

**S2558**

[SPONSOR'S STATEMENT:](#) (Begins on page 3 of original bill) [Yes](#)

**COMMITTEE STATEMENT:** **ASSEMBLY:** No

[SENATE:](#) [Yes](#)

**FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT:** No

**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE:** No

**A4145**

[SPONSOR'S STATEMENT:](#) (Begins on page 3 of original bill) [Yes](#)

**COMMITTEE STATEMENT:** [ASSEMBLY:](#) [Yes](#)

**SENATE:** No

**FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT:** No

**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE:** No

**VETO MESSAGE:** No

**GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING:** No

**FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:**

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**REPORTS:**

No

**HEARINGS:**

No

**NEWSPAPER ARTICLES:**

No

IS 7/03/07

P.L. 2005, CHAPTER 122, *approved July 2, 2005*  
Senate, No. 2558 (*First Reprint*)

1 **AN ACT** concerning State school aid for certain school districts which  
2 are bordered by Abbott districts and supplementing P.L.1996, c.138  
3 (C.18A:7F-1 et seq.).  
4

5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
6 of New Jersey:  
7

8 1. a. In addition to any State school aid to which a school district  
9 is entitled for the school year under P.L.1996, c.138 (C.18A:7F-1 et  
10 seq.) or any other law, a school district <sup>1</sup>, other than a regional or  
11 consolidated school district.<sup>1</sup> which is bordered by three or more  
12 Abbott districts shall receive additional State school aid if the district  
13 meets one or more of the following criteria <sup>1</sup>[in the prebudget year]<sup>1</sup>:

14 (1) the district's per pupil cost <sup>1</sup>in the prebudget year<sup>1</sup> as reported  
15 <sup>1</sup>[on the New Jersey School Report Card] in the Department of  
16 Education's Comparative Spending Guide<sup>1</sup> was less than the average  
17 per pupil cost for the Abbott districts <sup>1</sup>in the prebudget year<sup>1</sup> as  
18 calculated based on data from the <sup>1</sup>[New Jersey School Report Card]  
19 Comparative Spending Guide<sup>1</sup> ;

20 (2) the district had <sup>1</sup>[a] an average school<sup>1</sup> student mobility rate  
21 of 10% or greater <sup>1</sup>as reported in the most recent New Jersey School  
22 Report Card<sup>1</sup>;

23 (3) 35% or more of the district's students were eligible for free or  
24 reduced price meals under the federal school lunch program;

25 (4) 15% or more of the <sup>1</sup>[district's classrooms had a] numbers  
26 shown in the most recent New Jersey School Report Card data for  
27 class size by grade level, other than prekindergarten, and school for a  
28 district indicated an average<sup>1</sup> class size of 30 or more students; and

29 (5) the per capita personal income of the residents of the school  
30 district was \$19,000 or less for the 2004-2005 <sup>1</sup>[prebudget] school<sup>1</sup>  
31 year based upon aggregate total income reported on the NJ-1040 for  
32 2001 and all public assistance including Temporary Assistance to  
33 Needy Families for 2001. For each subsequent <sup>1</sup>[prebudget] school<sup>1</sup>  
34 year, the per capita personal income limit shall be increased by the CPI  
35 as defined in section 3 of P.L.1996, c.138 (C.18A:7F-3).

36 b. The additional State school aid to which a district is entitled  
37 pursuant to subsection a. of this section shall be calculated as follows:

38 Aid = (ADAPP - EDPP) x (1 + CPI) x RE x CF provided that Aid

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

**Matter underlined thus is new matter.**

**Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:**

<sup>1</sup>Senate SBA committee amendments adopted June 23, 2005.

1 shall not be less than zero; and

2 where

3 ADAPP means the Abbott district average per pupil cost in the  
4 prebudget year as calculated based on data from the <sup>1</sup>[New Jersey  
5 School Report Card] Department of Education's Comparative  
6 Spending Guide<sup>1</sup>;

7 EDPP means the eligible district's per pupil cost in the prebudget  
8 year as reported <sup>1</sup>[on the New Jersey School Report Card] in the  
9 Department of Education's Comparative Spending Guide<sup>1</sup>;

10 CPI means the CPI as defined in section 3 of P.L.1996, c.138  
11 (C.18A:7F-3);

12 RE means the eligible district's projected resident enrollment for the  
13 budget year; and

14 CF means the cost factor for the budget year which shall equal for  
15 the first budget year <sup>1</sup>[24%] 23%<sup>1</sup> for an eligible district that meets  
16 five of the criteria established pursuant to subsection a. of this section,  
17 <sup>1</sup>[16%] 15%<sup>1</sup> for an eligible district that meets four of those criteria,  
18 <sup>1</sup>[12%] 11%<sup>1</sup> for an eligible district that meets three of those criteria,  
19 <sup>1</sup>[8%] 6.5%<sup>1</sup> for an eligible district that meets two of those criteria,  
20 and 4% for an eligible district that meets one of those criteria.

21 In the calculation of additional State aid for subsequent budget  
22 years, CF shall be increased by adding 10% for each subsequent year.

23 c. The aid received by a school district pursuant to subsection b.  
24 of this section shall be adjusted pursuant to the procedures established  
25 in subsection a. of section 5 of P.L. 1996, c.138 (C.18A:7F-5) to  
26 reflect actual pupil counts as reported on the last school day prior to  
27 October 16 of the budget year and actual per pupil costs in the budget  
28 year as reported <sup>1</sup>[on the New Jersey School Report Card] in the  
29 Department of Education's Comparative Spending Guide<sup>1</sup>.

30

31 <sup>1</sup>2. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 1 of this act, for the  
32 2005-2006 school year a school district which meets the requirements  
33 of subsection a. of that section shall not receive additional State aid  
34 pursuant to the provisions of subsection b. of that section unless the  
35 district received High Expectations for Learning Proficiency Aid in the  
36 2004-2005 school year pursuant to the FY 2005 annual appropriations  
37 act. Such a district shall be eligible for additional State aid for  
38 subsequent school years if it meets the requirements of subsection a.  
39 of section 1 of this act.<sup>1</sup>

40

41 <sup>1</sup>[2.] 3.<sup>1</sup> This act shall take effect immediately and shall first apply  
42 to the 2005-2006 school year.

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2

3 Provides additional State school aid to school districts which are  
4 bordered by at least three Abbott districts.

**SENATE, No. 2558**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**211th LEGISLATURE**

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INTRODUCED MAY 19, 2005

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator NICHOLAS J. SACCO**  
**District 32 (Bergen and Hudson)**  
**Senator JOSEPH V. DORIA, JR.**  
**District 31 (Hudson)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Senators Lesniak, Kenny and Gill**

**SYNOPSIS**

Provides additional State school aid to school districts which are bordered by at least three Abbott districts.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



S2558 SACCO, DORIA

2

1 AN ACT concerning State school aid for certain school districts which  
2 are bordered by Abbott districts and supplementing P.L.1996, c.138  
3 (C.18A:7F-1 et seq.).

4

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

7

8 1. a. In addition to any State school aid to which a school district  
9 is entitled for the school year under P.L.1996, c.138 (C.18A:7F-1 et  
10 seq.) or any other law, a school district which is bordered by three or  
11 more Abbott districts shall receive additional State school aid if the  
12 district meets one or more of the following criteria in the prebudget  
13 year:

14 (1) the district's per pupil cost as reported on the New Jersey  
15 School Report Card was less than the average per pupil cost for the  
16 Abbott districts as calculated based on data from the New Jersey  
17 School Report Card;

18 (2) the district had a student mobility rate of 10% or greater;

19 (3) 35% or more of the district's students were eligible for free or  
20 reduced price meals under the federal school lunch program;

21 (4) 15% or more of the district's classrooms had a class size of 30  
22 or more students; and

23 (5) the per capita personal income of the residents of the school  
24 district was \$19,000 or less for the 2004-2005 prebudget year based  
25 upon aggregate total income reported on the NJ-1040 for 2001 and all  
26 public assistance including Temporary Assistance to Needy Families  
27 for 2001. For each subsequent prebudget year, the per capita personal  
28 income limit shall be increased by the CPI as defined in section 3 of  
29 P.L.1996, c.138 (C.18A:7F-3).

30 b. The additional State school aid to which a district is entitled  
31 pursuant to subsection a. of this section shall be calculated as follows:

32  $Aid = (ADAPP - EDPP) \times (1 + CPI) \times RE \times CF$  provided that Aid  
33 shall not be less than zero; and

34 where

35 ADAPP means the Abbott district average per pupil cost in the  
36 prebudget year as calculated based on data from the New Jersey  
37 School Report Card;

38 EDPP means the eligible district's per pupil cost in the prebudget  
39 year as reported on the New Jersey School Report Card;

40 CPI means the CPI as defined in section 3 of P.L.1996, c.138  
41 (C.18A:7F-3);

42 RE means the eligible district's projected resident enrollment for the  
43 budget year; and

44 CF means the cost factor for the budget year which shall equal for  
45 the first budget year 24% for an eligible district that meets five of the

1 criteria established pursuant to subsection a. of this section, 16% for  
2 an eligible district that meets four of those criteria, 12% for an eligible  
3 district that meets three of those criteria, 8% for an eligible district  
4 that meets two of those criteria, and 4% for an eligible district that  
5 meets one of those criteria.

6 In the calculation of additional State aid for subsequent budget  
7 years, CF shall be increased by adding 10% for each subsequent year.

8 c. The aid received by a school district pursuant to subsection b.  
9 of this section shall be adjusted pursuant to the procedures established  
10 in subsection a. of section 5 of P.L. 1996, c.138 (C.18A:7F-5) to  
11 reflect actual pupil counts as reported on the last school day prior to  
12 October 16 of the budget year and actual per pupil costs in the budget  
13 year as reported on the New Jersey School Report Card.

14  
15 2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall first apply to the  
16 2005-2006 school year.

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18  
19 STATEMENT  
20

21 This bill establishes a new category of State aid for those school  
22 districts which are bordered by three or more Abbott districts. The  
23 allocation of additional State school aid to such districts recognizes  
24 and addresses the fact that these districts are confronting many of the  
25 same problems faced by the Abbott districts.

26 Under the bill's provisions additional State aid would be provided  
27 to school districts which are bordered by three or more Abbott  
28 districts if the district meets one or more of the following criteria in  
29 the prebudget year:

30 (1) the district's per pupil cost as reported on the New Jersey  
31 School Report Card was less than the average per pupil cost for the  
32 Abbott districts as calculated based on data from the New Jersey  
33 School Report Card;

34 (2) the district had a student mobility rate of 10% or greater;

35 (3) 35% or more of the district's students were eligible for free or  
36 reduced price meals under the federal school lunch program;

37 (4) 15% or more of the district's classrooms had a class size of 30  
38 or more students; and

39 (5) the per capita personal income of the residents of the school  
40 district was \$19,000 or less for the prebudget year 2004-2005 based  
41 upon aggregate total income reported on the NJ-1040 for 2001 and all  
42 public assistance including Temporary Assistance for Needy Families  
43 for 2001.

44 The bill establishes a graduated formula for the calculation of  
45 additional State school aid to an eligible district based on: the



**S2558 SACCO, DORIA**

1 difference between the per pupil costs of the district as reported in the  
2 New Jersey School Report Card and the average per pupil cost for the  
3 Abbott districts; and the number of the five criteria described above  
4 which the eligible district meets. For the first school year in which  
5 additional State aid is calculated, an eligible school district that meets  
6 all five criteria is assigned a factor of 24%; an eligible district that  
7 meets four criteria, 16%; an eligible district that meets three criteria,  
8 12%; an eligible district that meets two criteria, 8%; and an eligible  
9 district that meets one criteria, 4%. The factors ensure that the State  
10 aid will be "weighted" toward those districts with the greatest need. In  
11 the calculation of additional State aid for subsequent budget years, the  
12 individual cost factors will be increased by adding 10% annually until  
13 such time as the State aid provided under the bill raises the eligible  
14 district to the Abbott district average per pupil cost.

# SENATE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### **SENATE, No. 2558**

with committee amendments

# **STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: JUNE 23, 2005

The Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 2558, with committee amendments.

This bill establishes a new category of State aid for those school districts which are bordered by three or more Abbott districts. The allocation of additional State school aid to such districts recognizes and addresses the fact that these districts are confronting many of the same problems faced by the Abbott districts.

Under the bill's provisions, additional State aid would be provided to school districts, other than regional or consolidated districts, which are bordered by three or more Abbott districts if the district meets one or more of the following criteria:

(1) the district's per pupil cost in the prebudget year as reported in the Department of Education's Comparative Spending Guide was less than the average per pupil cost for the Abbott districts as calculated based on data from the Comparative Spending Guide;

(2) the district had an average school student mobility rate of 10% or greater as reported in the most recent New Jersey School Report Card;

(3) 35% or more of the district's students were eligible for free or reduced price meals under the federal school lunch program;

(4) 15% or more of the numbers shown in the most recent School Report Card data for class size by grade level, other than prekindergarten, and school for a district indicated an average class size of 30 or more students; and

(5) the per capita personal income of the residents of the school district was \$19,000 or less for the 2004-2005 school year based upon aggregate total income reported on the NJ-1040 for 2001 and all public assistance including Temporary Assistance to Needy Families for 2001.

The bill establishes a graduated formula for the calculation of additional State school aid to an eligible district based on: the difference between the per pupil costs of the district as reported in the Department of Education's Comparative Spending Guide and the average per pupil cost for the Abbott districts; and the number of the

five criteria described above which the eligible district meets. For the first school year in which additional State aid is calculated, an eligible school district that meets all five criteria is assigned a factor of 23%; an eligible district that meets four criteria, 15%; an eligible district that meets three criteria, 11%; an eligible district that meets two criteria, 6.5%; and an eligible district that meets one criteria, 4%. The factors ensure that the State aid will be "weighted" toward those districts with the greatest need. In the calculation of additional State aid for subsequent budget years, the individual cost factors will be increased by adding 10% annually until such time as the State aid provided under the bill raises the eligible district to the Abbott district average per pupil cost.

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:**

The committee amended the bill to:

1) provide that the bill's provisions will not apply to regional and consolidated school districts;

2) provide for the use of data compiled in the Department of Education's Comparative Spending Guide for the calculation of per pupil costs;

3) revise the language concerning the calculation of class size and student mobility rate to reflect the manner in which data is compiled in the New Jersey School Report Card;

4) adjust the cost factors used in the calculation of the amount of State aid allocated to eligible school districts; and

5) provide that an otherwise eligible school district will not receive State aid under the bill for the 2005-2006 school year unless the district received High Expectations for Learning Proficiency Aid in FY 2005. In subsequent school years, such a district will be eligible for the additional aid.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The Office of Legislative Services has determined that five school districts qualify for the additional State aid under the bill: North Bergen, Bayonne, Clifton, Weehawken and Hillside. The additional State aid directed to these districts under current criteria will total approximately \$19,971,000.

# ASSEMBLY, No. 4145

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 211th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 9, 2005

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywoman JOAN M. QUIGLEY**

**District 32 (Bergen and Hudson)**

**Assemblyman JOSEPH CRYAN**

**District 20 (Union)**

**Assemblyman VINCENT PRIETO**

**District 32 (Bergen and Hudson)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

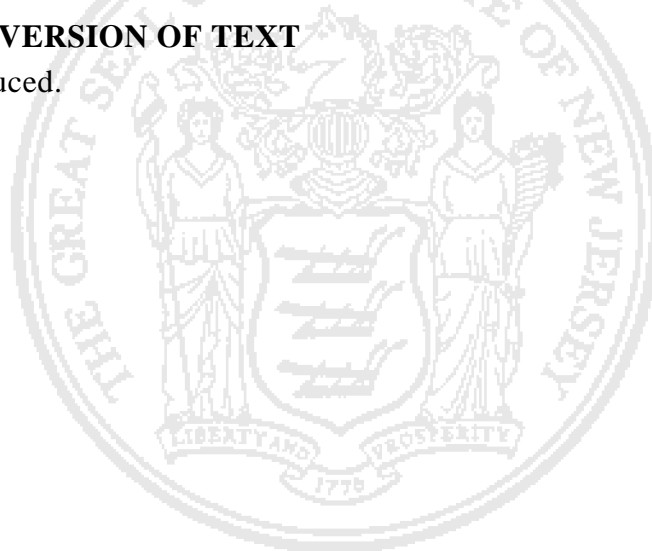
**Assemblywomen Watson Coleman, Oliver, Assemblymen Manzo and Scalera**

**SYNOPSIS**

Provides additional State school aid to school districts which are bordered by at least three Abbott districts.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/14/2005)**

1 AN ACT concerning State school aid for certain school districts which  
2 are bordered by Abbott districts and supplementing P.L.1996, c.138  
3 (C.18A:7F-1 et seq.).

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

7  
8 1. a. In addition to any State school aid to which a school district  
9 is entitled for the school year under P.L.1996, c.138 (C.18A:7F-1 et  
10 seq.) or any other law, a school district which is bordered by three or  
11 more Abbott districts shall receive additional State school aid if the  
12 district meets one or more of the following criteria in the prebudget  
13 year:

14 (1) the district's per pupil cost as reported on the New Jersey  
15 School Report Card was less than the average per pupil cost for the  
16 Abbott districts as calculated based on data from the New Jersey  
17 School Report Card;

18 (2) the district had a student mobility rate of 10% or greater;

19 (3) 35% or more of the district's students were eligible for free or  
20 reduced price meals under the federal school lunch program;

21 (4) 15% or more of the district's classrooms had a class size of 30  
22 or more students; and

23 (5) the per capita personal income of the residents of the school  
24 district was \$19,000 or less for the 2004-2005 prebudget year based  
25 upon aggregate total income reported on the NJ-1040 for 2001 and all  
26 public assistance including Temporary Assistance to Needy Families  
27 for 2001. For each subsequent prebudget year, the per capita personal  
28 income limit shall be increased by the CPI as defined in section 3 of  
29 P.L.1996, c.138 (C.18A:7F-3).

30 b. The additional State school aid to which a district is entitled  
31 pursuant to subsection a. of this section shall be calculated as follows:

32  $Aid = (ADAPP - EDPP) \times (1 + CPI) \times RE \times CF$  provided that Aid  
33 shall not be less than zero; and

34 where

35 ADAPP means the Abbott district average per pupil cost in the  
36 prebudget year as calculated based on data from the New Jersey  
37 School Report Card;

38 EDPP means the eligible district's per pupil cost in the prebudget  
39 year as reported on the New Jersey School Report Card;

40 CPI means the CPI as defined in section 3 of P.L.1996, c.138  
41 (C.18A:7F-3);

42 RE means the eligible district's projected resident enrollment for the  
43 budget year; and

44 CF means the cost factor for the budget year which shall equal for  
45 the first budget year 24% for an eligible district that meets five of the  
46 criteria established pursuant to subsection a. of this section, 16% for

1 an eligible district that meets four of those criteria, 12% for an eligible  
2 district that meets three of those criteria, 8% for an eligible district  
3 that meets two of those criteria, and 4% for an eligible district that  
4 meets one of those criteria.

5 In the calculation of additional State aid for subsequent budget  
6 years, CF shall be increased by adding 10% for each subsequent year.

7 c. The aid received by a school district pursuant to subsection b.  
8 of this section shall be adjusted pursuant to the procedures established  
9 in subsection a. of section 5 of P.L. 1996, c.138 (C.18A:7F-5) to  
10 reflect actual pupil counts as reported on the last school day prior to  
11 October 16 of the budget year and actual per pupil costs in the budget  
12 year as reported on the New Jersey School Report Card.

13  
14 2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall first apply to the  
15 2005-2006 school year.

16  
17  
18 STATEMENT

19  
20 This bill establishes a new category of State aid for those school  
21 districts which are bordered by three or more Abbott districts. The  
22 allocation of additional State school aid to such districts recognizes  
23 and addresses the fact that these districts are confronting many of the  
24 same problems faced by the Abbott districts.

25 Under the bill's provisions additional State aid would be provided  
26 to school districts which are bordered by three or more Abbott  
27 districts if the district meets one or more of the following criteria in  
28 the prebudget year:

29 (1) the district's per pupil cost as reported on the New Jersey  
30 School Report Card was less than the average per pupil cost for the  
31 Abbott districts as calculated based on data from the New Jersey  
32 School Report Card;

33 (2) the district had a student mobility rate of 10% or greater;

34 (3) 35% or more of the district's students were eligible for free or  
35 reduced price meals under the federal school lunch program;

36 (4) 15% or more of the district's classrooms had a class size of 30  
37 or more students; and

38 (5) the per capita personal income of the residents of the school  
39 district was \$19,000 or less for the prebudget year 2004-2005 based  
40 upon aggregate total income reported on the NJ-1040 for 2001 and all  
41 public assistance including Temporary Assistance for Needy Families  
42 for 2001.

43 The bill establishes a graduated formula for the calculation of  
44 additional State school aid to an eligible district based on: the  
45 difference between the per pupil costs of the district as reported in the  
46 New Jersey School Report Card and the average per pupil cost for the

**A4145 QUIGLEY, CRYAN**

4

1 Abbott districts; and the number of the five criteria described above  
2 which the eligible district meets. For the first school year in which  
3 additional State aid is calculated, an eligible school district that meets  
4 all five criteria is assigned a factor of 24%; an eligible district that  
5 meets four criteria, 16%; an eligible district that meets three criteria,  
6 12%; an eligible district that meets two criteria, 8%; and an eligible  
7 district that meets one criteria, 4%. The factors ensure that the State  
8 aid will be "weighted" toward those districts with the greatest need. In  
9 the calculation of additional State aid for subsequent budget years, the  
10 individual cost factors will be increased by adding 10% annually until  
11 such time as the State aid provided under the bill raises the eligible  
12 district to the Abbott district average per pupil cost.

# ASSEMBLY BUDGET COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### **ASSEMBLY, No. 4145**

with Assembly committee amendments

# **STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: JUNE 22, 2005

The Assembly Appropriations Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 4145, with committee amendments.

Assembly Bill No. 4145, as amended, establishes a new category of State aid for those school districts which are bordered by three or more Abbott districts. The allocation of additional State school aid to such districts recognizes and addresses the fact that these districts are confronting many of the same problems faced by the Abbott districts.

Under the bill's provisions, additional State aid will be provided to school districts which are bordered by three or more Abbott districts if the district meets one or more of the following criteria:

(1) the district's per pupil cost in the prebudget year as reported in the Department of Education's Comparative Spending Guide was less than the average per pupil cost for the Abbott districts as calculated based on data from the Comparative Spending Guide;

(2) the district had an average school student mobility rate of 10% or greater as reported in the most recent New Jersey School Report Card;

(3) 35% or more of the district's students were eligible for free or reduced price meals under the federal school lunch program;

(4) 15% or more of the numbers shown in the most recent School Report Card data for class size by grade level, other than prekindergarten, and school for a district indicated an average class size of 30 or more students; and

(5) the per capita personal income of the residents of the school district was \$19,000 or less for the 2004-2005 school year based upon aggregate total income reported on the NJ-1040 for 2001 and all public assistance including Temporary Assistance to Needy Families for 2001.

The bill establishes a graduated formula for the calculation of additional State school aid to an eligible district based on: the difference between the per pupil costs of the district as reported in the Department of Education's Comparative Spending Guide and the average per pupil cost for the Abbott districts; and the number of the five criteria described above which the eligible district meets. For the



first school year in which additional State aid is calculated, an eligible school district that meets all five criteria is assigned a factor of 23%; an eligible district that meets four criteria, 15%; an eligible district that meets three criteria, 11%; an eligible district that meets two criteria, 6.5%; and an eligible district that meets one criterion, 4%. The factors ensure that the State aid will be "weighted" toward those districts with the greatest need. In the calculation of additional State aid for subsequent budget years, the individual cost factors will be increased by adding 10% annually until such time as the State aid provided under the bill raises the eligible district to the Abbott district average per pupil cost.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Office of Legislative Services has determined that five school districts qualify for the additional State aid under the bill: North Bergen, Bayonne, Clifton, Weehawken and Hillside. The additional State aid directed to these districts under current criteria will total approximately \$19,971,000.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The amendments:

1) provide that the bill's provisions will not apply to regional and consolidated school districts;

2) provide for the use of data compiled in the Department of Education's Comparative Spending Guide for the calculation of per pupil costs;

3) revise the language concerning the calculation of class size and student mobility rate to reflect the manner in which data is compiled in the New Jersey School Report Card;

4) adjust the cost factors used in the calculation of the amount of State aid allocated to eligible school districts; and

5) provide that an otherwise eligible school district will not receive State aid under the bill for the 2005-2006 school year unless the district received High Expectations for Learning Proficiency Aid in FY 2005. In subsequent school years, such a district will be eligible for the additional aid.