

(School districts - Type I - Expenditures - Eliminate Countersigning by comptroller)

HJSA 18A:19-1, 18A:19-4

LAWS OF 1979

CHAPTER 98

Bill No. A956

Sponsor(s) Newman and Doyle

Date Introduced March 2, 1978

Committee: Assembly Education

Senate Education

Amended during passage Yes ~~X~~ Amendments during passage denoted by asterisks

Date of Passage: Assembly Oct. 5, 1978

Senate April 23, 1979

Date of approval May 24, 1979

Following statements are attached if available:

Sponsor statement	Yes	<del>X</del>
Committee Statement: Assembly	Yes	<del>X</del>
Senate	<del>Yes</del>	No
Fiscal Note	<del>Yes</del>	No
Veto message	<del>Yes</del>	No
Message on signing	<del>Yes</del>	No

Following were printed:

Reports	<del>Yes</del>	No
Hearings	<del>Yes</del>	No

Sponsor's statement:  
 This bill eliminates the requirement that the district comptroller countersign warrants for expenditures by Type I districts. The district comptroller is a municipal official, usually the treasurer. The countersigning requirement was imposed before there was a mandatory audit of such expenditures by a Statutory School Auditor. This bill would therefore eliminate a duplicative and unnecessary procedure.

EJ 9/1/78

[OFFICIAL COPY REPRINT]  
ASSEMBLY, No. 956

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED MARCH 2, 1978

By Assemblymen NEWMAN and DOYLE

Referred to Committee on Education

AN ACT concerning school board expenditure procedures, amending N. J. S. 18A:19-1 and N. J. S. 18A:19-4 and repealing sections \*18A:17-37, 18A:17-38, 18A:17-39, 18A:17-40,\* 18A:19-5, 18A:19-6, 18A:19-7 and 18A:19-8 of the New Jersey Statutes.

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

1 1. N. J. S. 18A:19-1 is amended to read as follows:

2 18A:19-1. The money or funds of the board in the custody of its  
3 custodian of school moneys shall be expended by such custodian by,  
4 and only by, warrants, each made payable to the order of the  
5 person entitled to receive the amount thereof and specifying the  
6 object for which is issued, signed by the president and secretary  
7 of the board~~[,] and~~ by such custodian of school moneys ~~[and by~~  
8 the district comptroller, if any],

9 (a) After audit of the account or demand to be paid, by the secre-  
10 tary ~~[and by the district comptroller, if any]~~, and after approval  
11 by the board, or

12 (b) In accordance with payrolls duly certified as provided by  
13 this title, or

14 (c) For debt service.

1 2. N. J. S. 18A:19-4 is amended to read as follows:

2 18A:19-4. All claims and demands against the board, except  
3 such as are to be paid from funds derived from athletic events or  
4 other activities of pupil organizations, shall be examined, audited  
5 and certified, in writing, by the secretary and presented by him to  
6 the board for its approval at a regularly called meeting and if  
7 found to be correct, shall be ordered paid by the board, whereupon  
8 the secretary and the president of the board shall issue and sign a  
9 warrant in payment therefor. The secretary thereupon shall for-

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

10 ward such warrant to the custodian of school moneys of the  
11 district], unless there is a district comptroller, in which case he  
12 shall forward the same with said claim to the district comptroller].

1 3. Sections \*18A:17-37, 18A:17-38, 18A:17-39, 18A:17-40,\*  
2 18A:19-5, 18A:19-6, 18A:19-7 and 18A:19-8 of the New Jersey  
3 Statutes are hereby repealed.

1 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

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6 object for which is issued, signed by the president and secretary  
7 of the board **[,]** and by such custodian of school moneys **[and by**  
8 **the district comptroller, if any],**

9 (a) After audit of the account or demand to be paid, by the secre-  
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1 3. Sections 18A:19-5, 18A:19-6, 18A:19-7 and 18A:19-8 of the  
2 New Jersey Statutes are hereby repealed.

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#### STATEMENT

This bill eliminates the requirement that the district comptroller countersign warrants for expenditures by Type I districts. The district comptroller is a municipal official, usually the treasurer. The countersigning requirement was imposed before there was a mandatory audit of such expenditures by a Statutory School Auditor. This bill would therefore eliminate a duplicative and unnecessary administrative procedure.

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ASSEMBLY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

**ASSEMBLY, No. 956**

with Assembly committee amendments

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: JUNE 8, 1978

PROVISIONS:

This bill eliminates the requirement that the district comptroller countersign warrants for expenditures by Type I districts. The district comptroller is a municipal official, usually the treasurer. The countersigning requirement was imposed before there was a mandatory audit of such expenditures by a Statutory School Auditor. This bill would therefore eliminate a duplicative and unnecessary administrative procedure.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The committee amendments repeal the statutes that establish the district comptroller and specify his powers and responsibilities. The amendments are consistent with the purpose of the bill.

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS TO  
**ASSEMBLY, No. 956**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

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*ADOPTED JUNE 8, 1978*

*Amend page 1, title, line 3, after "tions", insert "18A:17-37, 18A:17-38, 18A:17-39, 18A:17-40".*

*Amend page 2, section 3, line 1, after "sections", insert "18A:17-37, 18A:17-38, 18A:17-39, 18A:17-40".*

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

MAY 24, 1979

KATHRYN FORSYTH

Acting Governor Joseph P. Merlino today signed the following bills:

S-1089, sponsored by Senator Barry Parker (R-Burlington), which repeals a law enacted in 1941 that permitted certain municipalities to merge common administrative and government functions and services, which would then be under the supervision of a commissioner.

Under the 1941 law, the merger would only become effective after a referendum had been passed and a certification as to the favorable results of that referendum had been filed with the Secretary of State.

According to the statement on S-1089, an examination of the Secretary of State's record shows that no certificates have been filed certifying the adoption of the act by any township.

The failure of any township to adopt the act in the past 38 years indicates a lack of interest which supports the repeal of the statute.

A-956, sponsored by Assemblyman Daniel Newman (D-Ocean), which repeals the statutes that establish the position of District Comptroller for Type I school districts and specifies his powers and responsibilities. The bill also eliminates the requirement that the District Comptroller countersign warrants for expenditures.

The countersigning function was the main responsibility of the Comptroller requirement. The mandatory audits by statutory school auditors makes that countersigning function, and thereby the position, a duplicative administrative procedure.

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