

[First Reprint]

SENATE, No. 1175

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

213th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 21, 2008

Sponsored by:

Senator RONALD L. RICE

District 28 (Essex)

SYNOPSIS

Requires certain districts to develop a program of after school activities and provides for voter approval of additional local funding.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As amended on May 21, 2009 by the Senate pursuant to the Governor's recommendations.



1 AN ACT concerning a comprehensive program of after school
2 activities and supplementing chapter 6 of Title 18A of the New
3 Jersey Statutes.

4

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

7

8 1. a. ¹**[The]** In counties in which there is located a
9 municipality that had a population of 60,000 persons or more, as
10 reported in the latest federal decennial census published prior to the
11 enactment of this act, the¹ board of education of each district
12 ¹[which received preschool expansion aid or education opportunity
13 aid in the 2007-2008 school year] that is a district factor group A or
14 B school district that also is a kindergarten through grade 12 district
15 with a concentration of at-risk pupils greater than 40%¹, in
16 conjunction with the local governing body of the municipality in
17 which the district is located, shall develop a plan for a
18 comprehensive program of after school activities for students
19 enrolled in the district.

20 b. The plan shall include, but need not be limited to, the
21 following:

22 (1) the goals and objectives of the program and the ways in
23 which it will serve the needs and interests of the students in the
24 district;

25 (2) a detailed description of the recreational, academic and civic
26 enrichment activities that will be offered pursuant to the program;

27 (3) the background and qualifications of personnel who will
28 direct and supervise the program;

29 (4) a schedule of the days and hours during which the program
30 will operate;

31 (5) the criteria which will be utilized to determine eligibility for
32 student participation in the program;

33 (6) an estimate of the number of students who will be served by
34 the program;

35 (7) an estimate of the overall cost of the program and the
36 amount of general fund tax levy required to be raised by the district
37 to support the program; and

38 (8) any other information which the board determines to be
39 necessary.

40 c. After the plan has been developed, the board of education, in
41 conjunction with the local governing body, shall conduct two public
42 hearings to receive community input on the plan.

43 d. After the plan for the comprehensive program of after school
44 activities has been adopted by resolution of the board of education,

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.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Senate amendments adopted in accordance with Governor's recommendations May 21, 2009.

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1 the amount of any additional general fund tax levy required to be
2 raised by the district to implement the program required pursuant to
3 this act shall be submitted to the voters of the district or the board
4 of school estimate, as appropriate; except that the amount of any
5 additional general fund tax levy shall not exceed \$2,000,000. If
6 approved by the voters or the board of school estimate, the amount
7 so approved shall be assessed, levied and collected in the manner
8 provided by law. If the voters or the board of school estimate does
9 not approve the additional general fund tax levy, the district shall
10 not be required to implement the plan developed pursuant to this
11 act.

12 e. Any additional general fund tax levy raised to implement the
13 comprehensive program of after school activities established
14 pursuant to this act shall not be used to supplant State or local funds
15 allocated to support after school programs operated by the district
16 as of the effective date of this act.

17 f. Amounts raised for the comprehensive program of after
18 school activities established pursuant to this act shall be accounted
19 for in a special revenue fund and used solely for the purposes of the
20 program.

21 g. The amount of any additional general fund tax levy raised in
22 any budget year pursuant to subsection d. of this section shall be an
23 adjustment to the district's tax levy growth limitation as calculated
24 pursuant to section 3 of P.L.2007, c.62 (C.18A:7F-38) or the
25 district's spending growth limitation as calculated pursuant to
26 section 5 of P.L.1996, c.138 (C.18A:7F-5), as applicable.

27

28 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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1 act.

2 e. Any additional general fund tax levy raised to implement the
3 comprehensive program of after school activities established
4 pursuant to this act shall not be used to supplant State or local funds
5 allocated to support after school programs operated by the district
6 as of the effective date of this act.

7 f. Amounts raised for the comprehensive program of after
8 school activities established pursuant to this act shall be accounted
9 for in a special revenue fund and used solely for the purposes of the
10 program.

11 g. The amount of any additional general fund tax levy raised in
12 any budget year pursuant to subsection d. of this section shall be an
13 adjustment to the district's tax levy growth limitation as calculated
14 pursuant to section 3 of P.L.2007, c.62 (C.18A:7F-38) or the
15 district's spending growth limitation as calculated pursuant to
16 section 5 of P.L.1996, c.138 (C.18A:7F-5), as applicable.

17

18 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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21 *SPONSOR'S* STATEMENT

22

23 This bill requires the board of education of each former Abbott
24 district, in conjunction with the local governing body of the
25 municipality in which the district is located, to develop a plan for a
26 comprehensive program of after school activities.

27 The plan would include, but need not be limited to, the
28 following:

29

• the goals and objectives of the program and the ways in
30 which it will serve the needs and interests of the students
31 in the district;

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• a detailed description of the activities that will be
33 offered;

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• the background and qualifications of personnel who will
35 direct and supervise the program;

36

• a schedule of the days and hours during which the
37 program will operate;

38

• the criteria which will be utilized to determine eligibility
39 for student participation;

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• an estimate of the number of students who will be served
41 by the program;

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• an estimate of the overall cost of the program and the
43 amount of general fund tax levy required to be raised by
44 the district to support the program; and

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• any other information which the board determines to be
46 necessary.

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48 Pursuant to the bill, after the plan has been developed, the board
of education, in conjunction with the local governing body, must

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1 conduct two public hearings to receive community input on the
2 plan.

3 After the plan for the comprehensive program of after school
4 activities has been adopted by resolution of the board of education,
5 the amount of any additional general fund tax levy required to be
6 raised by the district to implement the program, which may not
7 exceed \$2,000,000, will be submitted to the voters of the district or
8 the board of school estimate, as appropriate, for approval. The
9 amount raised for this purpose will be considered a cap adjustment
10 for the district.

11 Pursuant to the bill, the additional general fund tax levy will not
12 be permitted to supplant any State or local funds allocated to
13 support after school programs currently existing in the district. In
14 addition, amounts raised to implement the comprehensive program
15 of after school activities will be accounted for in a special revenue
16 fund and used solely for the purposes of the program.

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 1175

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: OCTOBER 16, 2008

The Senate Education Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 1175.

This bill requires the board of education of each district formerly referred to as an Abbott district, in conjunction with the local governing body of the municipality in which the district is located, to develop a plan for a comprehensive program of after school activities.

The plan would include, but need not be limited to, the following:

- the goals and objectives of the program and the ways in which it will serve the needs and interests of the students in the district;
- a detailed description of the activities that will be offered;
- the background and qualifications of personnel who will direct and supervise the program;
- a schedule of the days and hours during which the program will operate;
- the criteria which will be utilized to determine eligibility for student participation;
- an estimate of the number of students who will be served by the program;
- an estimate of the overall cost of the program and the amount of general fund tax levy required to be raised by the district to support the program; and
- any other information which the board determines to be necessary.

Pursuant to the bill, after the plan has been developed, the board of education, in conjunction with the local governing body, must conduct two public hearings to receive community input on the plan.

After the plan for the comprehensive program of after school activities has been adopted by resolution of the board of education, the amount of any additional general fund tax levy required to be raised by the district to implement the program, which may not exceed \$2,000,000, will be submitted to the voters of the district or the board of school estimate, as appropriate, for approval. The amount raised for this purpose will be considered a cap adjustment for the district.

Pursuant to the bill, the additional general fund tax levy will not be permitted to supplant any State or local funds allocated to support after

school programs currently existing in the district. In addition, amounts raised to implement the comprehensive program of after school activities will be accounted for in a special revenue fund and used solely for the purposes of the program.

ASSEMBLY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 1175

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: FEBRUARY 26, 2009

The Assembly Education Committee favorably reports Senate Bill No. 1175.

This bill requires the board of education of each district formerly referred to as an Abbott district, in conjunction with the local governing body of the municipality in which the district is located, to develop a plan for a comprehensive program of after school activities.

The plan would include, but need not be limited to, the following:

- the goals and objectives of the program and the ways in which it will serve the needs and interests of the students in the district;
- a detailed description of the activities that will be offered;
- the background and qualifications of personnel who will direct and supervise the program;
- a schedule of the days and hours during which the program will operate;
- the criteria which will be utilized to determine eligibility for student participation;
- an estimate of the number of students who will be served by the program;
- an estimate of the overall cost of the program and the amount of general fund tax levy required to be raised by the district to support the program; and
- any other information which the board determines to be necessary.

Pursuant to the bill, after the plan has been developed, the board of education, in conjunction with the local governing body, must conduct two public hearings to receive community input on the plan.

After the plan for the comprehensive program of after school activities has been adopted by resolution of the board of education, the amount of any additional general fund tax levy required to be raised by the district to implement the program, which may not exceed \$2,000,000, will be submitted to the voters of the district or the board of school estimate, as appropriate, for approval. The amount raised for this purpose will be considered a cap adjustment for the district.

Pursuant to the bill, the additional general fund tax levy will not be permitted to supplant any State or local funds allocated to support after

school programs currently existing in the district. In addition, amounts raised to implement the comprehensive program of after school activities will be accounted for in a special revenue fund and used solely for the purposes of the program.

SENATE BILL NO. 1175

To the Senate:

Pursuant to Article V, Section I, Paragraph 14 of the New Jersey Constitution, I am returning Senate Bill No. 1175 with my recommendations for reconsideration.

A. Summary of Bill

This bill would require certain school districts, in conjunction with their municipal governments, to develop a plan for a program of after school activities for students. The bill would require that public input be considered in developing plans for such programs, which could be established upon voter approval of the program and its costs.

B. Recommended Action

I commend the sponsor of the bill for recognizing the benefits of engaging young people in organized and supervised after school activities. In addition to the peer interaction, leadership skills development, and health benefits of such programs, these programs assist young people by involving them in positive activities in a safe environment. I am advised, however, that it would be preferable to use different criteria to delineate the districts to which the bill would apply to avoid potential confusion. For this reason, I am recommending changes so that the bill reaches districts where many students are at-risk. While the type of programs described in the bill are different than the educational programming that may be offered under the School Funding Reform Act of 2008, L. 2007, c. 260, to assist students in the attainment of the Core Curriculum Content Standards, young people also may benefit from such organized after school activity programs.

Accordingly, I herewith return Senate Bill No. 1175 and recommend that it be amended as follows:

Page 2, Section 1, Line 8:

After "a." delete "The" and insert "In counties in which there is located a municipality that had a population of 60,000 persons or more, as reported in the latest federal decennial census published prior to enactment of this bill, the"

Page 2, Section 1, Lines 8 - 10:

After "district" delete "which received preschool expansion aid or education opportunity aid in the 2007-2008 school year" and insert "that is a district factor group A or B school district that also is a kindergarten through grade 12 district with a concentration of at-risk pupils greater than 40%"

Respectfully,

/s/Jon S. Corzine

Governor

[seal]

Attest:

/s/William J. Castner, Jr.

Chief Counsel to the Governor