

4101

2011-2012 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

March 17, 2011

Introduced by Sens. FARLEY, DeFRANCISCO, GRIFFO, JOHNSON, LARKIN,
MAZIARZ, RANZENHOFER, SEWARD, ZELDIN -- read twice and ordered print-
ed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to state aid for library
projects

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEM-
BLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 Section 1. Subdivision 1 of section 273-a of the education law, as
2 amended by section 4 of part A of chapter 57 of the laws of 2009, is
3 amended to read as follows:
4 1. A. State aid shall be provided for up to fifty percent of the total
5 project approved costs, excluding feasibility studies, plans or similar
6 activities, for projects for the acquisition OF VACANT LAND AND THE
7 ACQUISITION, construction, renovation or rehabilitation, including
8 leasehold improvements, of buildings of public libraries and library
9 systems chartered by the regents of the state of New York or established
10 by act of the legislature subject to the limitations provided in subdi-
11 vision four of this section and upon approval by the commissioner,
12 EXCEPT THAT STATE AID SHALL BE PROVIDED FOR UP TO SEVENTY-FIVE PERCENT
13 OF THE TOTAL PROJECT APPROVED COSTS FOR BUILDINGS OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES
14 THAT ARE LOCATED IN AN ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITY.
15 B. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SUBDIVISION, THE TERM "ECONOMICALLY DISAD-
16 VANTAGED COMMUNITY" SHALL MEAN AT LEAST ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:
17 (1) A POLITICAL SUBDIVISION WITHIN WHICH FIFTEEN PERCENT OR MORE OF
18 THE POPULATION IS LIVING IN POVERTY AS SHOWN ON THE LATEST FEDERAL
19 CENSUS. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS PARAGRAPH, A "POLITICAL SUBDIVISION"
20 SHALL MEAN THE SMALLEST GEOGRAPHIC MUNICIPALITY WITHIN WHICH THE BUILD-
21 ING IS LOCATED INCLUDING A VILLAGE, A CITY, A BOROUGH OR A TOWN WITH A
22 POPULATION SHOWN ON THE LATEST FEDERAL CENSUS. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS
23 PARAGRAPH, "POVERTY" IS DEFINED AS THOSE INDIVIDUALS LIVING BELOW THE

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[] is old law to be omitted.

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1 POVERTY LEVEL FOR THE POLITICAL SUBDIVISION AS SHOWN BY THE LATEST
2 FEDERAL CENSUS.

3 (2) A PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT WITHIN WHICH THE PERCENTAGE OF STUDENT
4 ENROLLMENT THAT IS ELIGIBLE FOR FREE AND REDUCED LUNCH UNDER THE
5 NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM IS SIXTY-FIVE PERCENT OR MORE FOR AT LEAST
6 ONE MONTH DURING THE TWELVE MONTHS PRIOR TO THE DATE OF FILING OF THE
7 GRANT APPLICATION TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR STATE AID UNDER THIS SUBDIVI-
8 SION.

9 (3) A POLITICAL SUBDIVISION AS DESCRIBED IN SUBPARAGRAPH ONE OF THIS
10 PARAGRAPH WITHIN WHICH THIRTEEN PERCENT OR MORE OF THE POPULATION IS
11 LIVING IN POVERTY AND A PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT AS DESCRIBED IN SUBPARA-
12 GRAPH TWO OF THIS PARAGRAPH WITHIN WHICH THE PERCENTAGE OF STUDENT
13 ENROLLMENT THAT IS ELIGIBLE FOR FREE AND REDUCED LUNCH UNDER THE
14 NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM IS FIFTY PERCENT OR MORE.

15 C. Provided however that the state liability for aid paid pursuant to
16 this section shall be limited to funds appropriated for such purpose.
17 Aid shall be provided on approved expenses incurred during the period
18 commencing July first and ending June thirtieth for up to three years,
19 or until the project is completed, whichever occurs first. Fifty
20 percent of such aid shall be payable to each system or library upon
21 approval of the application BY THE DEPARTMENT. Forty percent of such
22 aid shall be payable in the next state fiscal year. The remaining ten
23 percent shall be payable upon project completion.

24 S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.