

10803

I N A S S E M B L Y

April 21, 2010

Introduced by M. of A. ALFANO -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. BARRA,  
CONTE, FITZPATRICK, McDONOUGH -- read once and referred to the Commit-  
tee on Higher Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to establishing a  
regional cost index related to tuition assistance program awards

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

1 Section 1. Legislative findings and declaration. The legislature here-  
2 by finds and declares that providing an affordable college education to  
3 the state's citizens is necessary to ensuring a vibrant state economy.  
4 The tuition assistance program has proven to be an invaluable resource  
5 to students in their attempt to pay for college.

6 Further, the legislature finds that cost of living expenses vary  
7 greatly in the various regions of the state.

8 S 2. Subdivision 3 of section 667 of the education law is amended by  
9 adding a new paragraph e to read as follows:

10 E. REGIONAL COST INDEX. (I) FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION REGIONS  
11 ARE DEFINED AS FOLLOWS: CAPITAL REGION SHALL INCLUDE THE COUNTIES OF  
12 ALBANY, COLUMBIA, GREENE, RENSSELAER, SARATOGA, SCHENECTADY, WARREN AND  
13 WASHINGTON; CENTRAL NEW YORK REGION SHALL INCLUDE THE COUNTIES OF CAYU-  
14 GA, CORTLAND, ONONDAGA, AND OSWEGO; FINGER LAKES REGION SHALL INCLUDE  
15 THE COUNTIES OF GENESEE, LIVINGSTON, MONROE, ONTARIO, ORLEANS, SENECA,  
16 WAYNE, WYOMING AND YATES; HUDSON VALLEY REGION SHALL INCLUDE THE COUN-  
17 TIES OF DUTCHESS, ORANGE, PUTNAM, ROCKLAND, SULLIVAN, ULSTER AND WEST-  
18 CHESTER; LONG ISLAND REGION SHALL INCLUDE THE COUNTIES OF NASSAU AND  
19 SUFFOLK; MOHAWK VALLEY REGION SHALL INCLUDE THE COUNTIES OF FULTON,  
20 HERKIMER, MADISON, MONTGOMERY, ONEIDA AND SCHOHARIE; NEW YORK CITY  
21 REGION SHALL INCLUDE THE COUNTIES OF BRONX, KINGS, NEW YORK, QUEENS AND  
22 RICHMOND; NORTH COUNTRY REGION SHALL INCLUDE THE COUNTIES OF CLINTON,  
23 ESSEX, FRANKLIN, HAMILTON, JEFFERSON, LEWIS AND ST. LAWRENCE; SOUTHERN  
24 TIER REGION SHALL INCLUDE THE COUNTIES OF BROOME, CHEMUNG, CHENANGO,  
25 DELAWARE, OTSEGO, SCHUYLER, STEUBEN, TIOGA AND TOMPKINS; AND WESTERN NEW  
26 YORK REGION SHALL INCLUDE THE COUNTIES OF ALLEGANY, CATTARAUGUS, CHAU-  
27 TAUQUA, ERIE AND NIAGARA.

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

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1 (II) THE PRESIDENT SHALL ADJUST AWARDS PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH A OF THIS  
2 SUBDIVISION FOR STUDENTS WHOSE PRIMARY RESIDENCE IS WITHIN ONE OF THE  
3 FOLLOWING REGIONS ACCORDING TO THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULE: CAPITAL REGION -  
4 THE SUM OF THE AWARD MULTIPLIED BY 1.29; CENTRAL NEW YORK REGION - THE  
5 SUM OF THE AWARD MULTIPLIED BY 1.17; FINGER LAKES REGION - THE SUM OF  
6 THE AWARD MULTIPLIED BY 1.23; HUDSON VALLEY REGION - THE SUM OF THE  
7 AWARD MULTIPLIED BY 1.88; LONG ISLAND REGION - THE SUM OF THE AWARD  
8 MULTIPLIED BY 1.80; MOHAWK VALLEY REGION - THE SUM OF THE AWARD MULTI-  
9 PLIED BY 1.00; NEW YORK CITY REGION - THE SUM OF THE AWARD MULTIPLIED BY  
10 2.95; NORTH COUNTRY REGION - THE SUM OF THE AWARD MULTIPLIED BY 1.00;  
11 SOUTHERN TIER REGION - THE SUM OF THE AWARD MULTIPLIED BY 1.08; AND  
12 WESTERN NEW YORK REGION - THE SUM OF THE AWARD MULTIPLIED BY 1.11.

13 (III) AWARDS PROVIDED PURSUANT TO THIS PARAGRAPH SHALL NOT EXCEED NINE  
14 THOUSAND DOLLARS ANNUALLY.

15 S 3. This act shall take effect on the first of June next succeeding  
16 the date on which it shall have become a law.