S T A T E O F N E W Y O R K

7053

2011-2012 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

April 11, 2011

Introduced by M. of A. J. MILLER, THIELE, DUPREY, BURLING, CALHOUN, SAYWARD, FITZPATRICK -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. AMEDORE, BARCLAY, BUTLER, CONTE, CROUCH, FINCH, GIGLIO, HAYES, KOLB, McDONOUGH, MOLINARO, RABBITT, RAIA, SALADINO, SPANO, TEDISCO, TOBACCO -- read once and referred to the Committee on Education

AN ACT to amend the general municipal law and the education law, in relation to requiring the state to fund certain programs mandated for municipal corporations and school districts

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

Section 1. The general municipal law is amended by adding a new section 25 to read as follows:

S 25. FUNDING OF MANDATES. 1. DEFINITIONS. AS USED IN THIS SECTION, THE FOLLOWING TERMS SHALL HAVE THE FOLLOWING MEANINGS UNLESS THE CONTEXT SHALL OTHERWISE REQUIRE:

(A) "MANDATE" MEANS:

(I) ANY STATE LAW, RULE, OR REGULATION WHICH CREATES A NEW PROGRAM OR REQUIRES A HIGHER LEVEL OF SERVICE FOR AN EXISTING PROGRAM WHICH A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION IS REQUIRED TO PROVIDE; OR

(II) ANY GENERAL LAW WHICH GRANTS A NEW PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION OR INCREASES AN EXISTING PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION WHICH THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION IS REQUIRED TO PROVIDE.

(B) "UNFUNDED MANDATE" SHALL MEAN:

(I) ANY STATE LAW, RULE, OR REGULATION WHICH CREATES A NEW PROGRAM OR REQUIRES A HIGHER LEVEL OF SERVICE FOR AN EXISTING PROGRAM WHICH A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION IS REQUIRED TO PROVIDE AND WHICH RESULTS IN A NET ADDITIONAL COST TO THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION;

(II) ANY ALTERATION IN FUNDING PROVIDED TO A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEFRAYING THE COSTS OF A PROGRAM WHICH IT IS REQUIRED TO PROVIDE, THEREBY RESULTING IN A NET ADDITIONAL COST TO THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION; OR

(III) ANY GENERAL LAW WHICH GRANTS A NEW PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION OR INCREASES AN EXISTING PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION WHICH THE MUNICIPAL CORPO-

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

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RATION IS REQUIRED TO PROVIDE, THEREBY RESULTING IN A NET ADDITIONAL COST TO THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION.

(C) "NET ADDITIONAL COST" MEANS THE COST OR COSTS INCURRED OR ANTICIPATED TO BE INCURRED WITHIN A ONE YEAR PERIOD BY A LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN PERFORMING OR ADMINISTERING A MANDATE AFTER SUBTRACTING THEREFROM ANY REVENUES RECEIVED OR RECEIVABLE BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ON ACCOUNT OF THE MANDATED PROGRAM OR SERVICE, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO:

(I) FEES CHARGED TO THE RECIPIENTS OF THE MANDATED PROGRAM OR SERVICE;

(II) STATE OR FEDERAL AID PAID SPECIFICALLY OR CATEGORICALLY IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROGRAM OR SERVICE; AND

(III) AN OFFSETTING SAVINGS RESULTING FROM THE DIMINUTION OR ELIMINATION OF ANY OTHER PROGRAM OR SERVICE DIRECTLY ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE PERFORMANCE OR ADMINISTRATION OF THE MANDATED PROGRAM.

2. FUNDING OF MUNICIPAL CORPORATION MANDATES. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW, NO UNFUNDED MANDATE SHALL BE ENACTED WHICH CREATES AN ANNUAL NET ADDITIONAL COST TO ANY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION IN EXCESS OF TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS OR AN AGGREGATE ANNUAL NET ADDITIONAL COST TO ALL MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS IN EXCESS OF ONE MILLION DOLLARS.

3. EXEMPTIONS TO THE FUNDING OF MUNICIPAL CORPORATION MANDATES REQUIREMENT. (A) THE STATE SHALL NOT BE REQUIRED TO FUND ANY NEW OR EXPANDED PROGRAMS IF:

(I) THE MANDATE IS REQUIRED BY A COURT ORDER OR JUDGMENT;

(II) THE MANDATE IS PROVIDED AT THE OPTION OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNDER A LAW, REGULATION, RULE, OR ORDER THAT IS PERMISSIVE RATHER THAN MANDATORY;

(III) THE MANDATE RESULTS FROM THE PASSAGE OF A HOME RULE MESSAGE WHEREBY A LOCAL GOVERNMENT REQUESTS AUTHORITY TO IMPLEMENT THE PROGRAM OR SERVICE SPECIFIED IN THE STATUTE, AND THE STATUTE IMPOSES COSTS ONLY UPON THAT LOCAL GOVERNMENT WHICH REQUESTS THE AUTHORITY TO IMPOSE THE PROGRAM OR SERVICE;

(IV) THE MANDATE IS REQUIRED BY, OR ARISES FROM, AN EXECUTIVE ORDER OF THE GOVERNOR EXERCISING HIS OR HER EMERGENCY POWERS; OR

(V) THE MANDATE IS REQUIRED BY STATUTE OR EXECUTIVE ORDER THAT IMPLEMENTS A FEDERAL LAW OR REGULATION AND RESULTS FROM COSTS MANDATED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO BE BORNE AT THE LOCAL LEVEL, UNLESS THE STATUTE OR EXECUTIVE ORDER RESULTS IN COSTS WHICH EXCEED THE COSTS MANDATED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

(B) EACH ACT ESTABLISHING A MANDATE SHALL PROVIDE THAT THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF ANY SUCH MANDATE IMPOSED ON MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS SHALL BE CONSISTENT WITH THE NEEDS OF THE STATE AND MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS TO PLAN IMPLEMENTATION THEREOF AND CONSISTENT WITH THE AVAILABILITY OF REQUIRED FUNDS.

S 2. The education law is amended by adding a new section 1527-a to read as follows:

S 1527-A. FUNDING OF MANDATES IMPOSED ON SCHOOL DISTRICTS. 1. DEFINITIONS. AS USED IN THIS SECTION, THE FOLLOWING TERMS SHALL HAVE THE FOLLOWING MEANINGS UNLESS THE CONTEXT SHALL OTHERWISE REQUIRE:

(A) "MANDATE" MEANS:

(I) ANY STATE LAW, RULE, OR REGULATION WHICH CREATES A NEW PROGRAM OR REQUIRES A HIGHER LEVEL OF SERVICE FOR AN EXISTING PROGRAM WHICH A SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZED EITHER BY SPECIAL LAWS OR PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF A GENERAL LAW, IS REQUIRED TO PROVIDE; OR

(II) ANY GENERAL LAW WHICH GRANTS A NEW PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION OR INCREASES AN EXISTING PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION WHICH ANY SUCH SCHOOL DISTRICT IS REQUIRED TO PROVIDE.

(B) "UNFUNDED MANDATE" SHALL MEAN:

(I) ANY STATE LAW, RULE, OR REGULATION WHICH CREATES A NEW PROGRAM OR REQUIRES A HIGHER LEVEL OF SERVICE FOR AN EXISTING PROGRAM WHICH ANY SUCH SCHOOL DISTRICT IS REQUIRED TO PROVIDE AND WHICH RESULTS IN A NET ADDITIONAL COST TO SUCH SCHOOL DISTRICT;

(II) ANY ALTERATION IN FUNDING PROVIDED TO ANY SUCH SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEFRAYING THE COSTS OF A PROGRAM WHICH IT IS REQUIRED TO PROVIDE, THEREBY RESULTING IN A NET ADDITIONAL COST TO SUCH SCHOOL DISTRICT; OR

(III) ANY GENERAL LAW WHICH GRANTS A NEW PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION OR INCREASES AN EXISTING PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION WHICH ANY SUCH SCHOOL DISTRICT IS REQUIRED TO PROVIDE, THEREBY RESULTING IN A NET ADDITIONAL COST TO SUCH SCHOOL DISTRICT.

(C) "NET ADDITIONAL COST" MEANS THE COST OR COSTS INCURRED OR ANTICIPATED TO BE INCURRED WITHIN A ONE YEAR PERIOD BY A SCHOOL DISTRICT IN PERFORMING OR ADMINISTERING A MANDATE AFTER SUBTRACTING THEREFROM ANY REVENUES RECEIVED OR RECEIVABLE BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICT ON ACCOUNT OF THE MANDATED PROGRAM OR SERVICE, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO:

(I) FEES CHARGED TO THE RECIPIENTS OF THE MANDATED PROGRAM OR SERVICE;

(II) STATE OR FEDERAL AID PAID SPECIFICALLY OR CATEGORICALLY IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROGRAM OR SERVICE; AND

(III) AN OFFSETTING SAVINGS RESULTING FROM THE DIMINUTION OR ELIMINATION OF ANY OTHER PROGRAM OR SERVICE DIRECTLY ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE PERFORMANCE OR ADMINISTRATION OF THE MANDATED PROGRAM.

2. FUNDING OF SCHOOL DISTRICT MANDATES. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW, NO UNFUNDED MANDATE SHALL BE ENACTED WHICH CREATES AN ANNUAL NET ADDITIONAL COST TO ANY SCHOOL DISTRICT IN EXCESS OF TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS OR AN AGGREGATE ANNUAL NET ADDITIONAL COST TO ALL SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN EXCESS OF ONE MILLION DOLLARS.

3. EXEMPTIONS TO THE FUNDING OF SCHOOL DISTRICT MANDATES REQUIREMENT. (A) THE STATE SHALL NOT BE REQUIRED TO FUND ANY NEW OR EXPANDED PROGRAMS FOR SCHOOL DISTRICTS IF:

(I) THE MANDATE IS REQUIRED BY A COURT ORDER OR JUDGMENT;

(II) THE MANDATE IS PROVIDED AT THE OPTION OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT UNDER A LAW, REGULATION, RULE, OR ORDER THAT IS PERMISSIVE RATHER THAN MANDATORY;

(III) THE MANDATE RESULTS FROM THE PASSAGE OF A HOME RULE MESSAGE WHEREBY A SCHOOL DISTRICT REQUESTS AUTHORITY TO IMPLEMENT THE PROGRAM OR SERVICE SPECIFIED IN THE STATUTE, AND THE STATUTE IMPOSES COSTS ONLY UPON THAT SCHOOL DISTRICT WHICH REQUESTS THE AUTHORITY TO IMPOSE THE PROGRAM OR SERVICE;

(IV) THE MANDATE IS REQUIRED BY, OR ARISES FROM, AN EXECUTIVE ORDER OF THE GOVERNOR EXERCISING HIS OR HER EMERGENCY POWERS; OR

(V) THE MANDATE IS REQUIRED BY STATUTE OR EXECUTIVE ORDER THAT IMPLEMENTS A FEDERAL LAW OR REGULATION AND RESULTS FROM COSTS MANDATED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO BE BORNE AT THE LOCAL LEVEL, UNLESS THE STATUTE OR EXECUTIVE ORDER RESULTS IN COSTS WHICH EXCEED THE COSTS MANDATED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

(B) EACH ACT ESTABLISHING A MANDATE SHALL PROVIDE THAT THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF ANY SUCH MANDATE IMPOSED ON SCHOOL DISTRICTS SHALL BE CONSISTENT WITH THE NEEDS OF THE STATE AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO PLAN IMPLEMENTATION THEREOF, AND ALSO CONSISTENT WITH THE AVAILABILITY OF REQUIRED FUNDS.

S 3. This act shall take effect April 1, 2012 and shall apply to any general or special law imposing mandates on municipal corporations or school districts enacted on or after such effective date.