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I N S E N A T E

January 6, 2016

Introduced by Sen. ROBACH -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Education

AN ACT in relation to the transportation of students in the Rochester city school district

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

1 Section 1. a. Notwithstanding the provision of any law, rule, or regulation to the contrary, including subdivision 1 of section 3635 of the education law, the city school district of the city of Rochester, upon approval of a vote by the board of education of a plan which describes fiscal and educational outcomes and implementation strategy and notification to the commissioner of education by February 1, 2016, may enter into a transportation pilot program for a period not to exceed five school years beginning with the 2016-2017 school year to provide transportation services for children attending grades kindergarten through 3 in the 2016-2017 school year, and for children attending kindergarten through 6 in the 2017-2018 school year and subsequent years, and who live more than one-half mile and less than fifteen miles from the school which they legally attend provided such transportation, if offered, shall be offered equally to all children in like circumstances residing in the district.

16 b. For the purposes of computing approved transportation expenses for transportation aid for transportation provided under this pilot program, expenses for transportation provided pursuant to this pilot program for children attending grades kindergarten through 3 in the 2016-2017 school year, and for children attending kindergarten through 6 in the 2017-2018 school year and subsequent years, who live more than one-half mile and less than fifteen miles from the school which they legally attend shall be included. Transportation expenses shall be reimbursed pursuant to subdivision 7 of section 3602 of the education law during such pilot period in an amount not to exceed the 2015-2016 approved transportation aid amount pursuant to such subdivision 7.

27 c. In the event costs for providing transportation for children that would otherwise be aidable without this pilot program increase due to

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

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1 enrollment changes or other customary increases in cost as defined in
2 regulation by the commissioner of education, the city school district of
3 the city of Rochester may apply to the commissioner of education for a
4 waiver to receive additional transportation aid in excess of the
5 2013-2014 transportation aid amount during the pilot program for
6 services that would otherwise be allowable transportation expenses.
7 d. The city school district of the city of Rochester shall provide a
8 report to the commissioner of education on the results of the first four
9 years of the pilot program, including data that describes the costs and
10 benefits of the program, by September 30, 2020.
11 S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.