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I N   A S S E M B L Y

January 12, 2016

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Introduced by M. of A. ZEBROWSKI, SKOUFIS, JAFFEE, McDONALD, BRONSON,  
WOERNER, RAIA, LUPINACCI -- read once and referred to the Committee on  
Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to full day kindergarten

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

1     Section 1. Subdivision 9 of section 3602 of the education law, as  
2     amended by section 9 of part A of chapter 57 of the laws of 2013, is  
3     amended to read as follows:

4     9. Aid for conversion to full day kindergarten. School districts may  
5     make available full day kindergarten programs for all children wishing  
6     to attend such programs.

7     a. For aid payable in the [two thousand seven--two thousand eight] TWO  
8     THOUSAND SIXTEEN--TWO THOUSAND SEVENTEEN school year and thereafter,  
9     school districts which provided any half-day kindergarten programs or  
10    had no kindergarten programs in the [nineteen hundred ninety-six--nine-  
11    ty-seven] TWO THOUSAND FIFTEEN--TWO THOUSAND SIXTEEN school year [and in  
12    the base year], and which have not received an apportionment pursuant to  
13    this paragraph in any prior school year, shall be eligible for FIVE YEAR  
14    TRANSITION aid. A DISTRICT SHALL BE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE AID BY PROVID-  
15    ING FULL DAY KINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS FOR ALL CHILDREN WHO WISH TO ATTEND  
16    SUCH PROGRAMS. THE AID IN THE FIRST YEAR OF FULL DAY KINDERGARTEN TRAN-  
17    SITION IS equal to the product of the district's selected foundation aid  
18    calculated pursuant to subdivision four of this section multiplied by  
19    the positive difference resulting when the full day kindergarten enroll-  
20    ment of children attending programs in the district in the base year is  
21    subtracted from such enrollment in the current year. THE REMAINING TRAN-  
22    SITION AID SHALL BE APPORTIONED AS FOLLOWS:

23    I. AID IN YEAR TWO SHALL EQUAL EIGHTY PERCENT OF THE AID RECEIVED BY  
24    THE DISTRICT IN YEAR ONE.

25    II. AID IN YEAR THREE SHALL EQUAL SIXTY PERCENT OF THE AID RECEIVED  
26    BY THE DISTRICT IN YEAR ONE.

27    III. AID IN YEAR FOUR SHALL EQUAL FORTY PERCENT OF THE AID RECEIVED BY  
28    THE DISTRICT IN YEAR ONE.

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

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1 IV. AID IN YEAR FIVE SHALL EQUAL TWENTY PERCENT OF THE AID RECEIVED BY  
2 THE DISTRICT IN YEAR ONE.

3 b. [Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph a of this subdivision,  
4 school districts that have received an apportionment pursuant to this  
5 subdivision in a prior school year shall be eligible for an apportion-  
6 ment where the department grants a waiver upon cause satisfactory to the  
7 department, including but not limited to, satisfactory demonstration of  
8 significant economic hardship that would impact the school district's  
9 ability to provide full day kindergarten for all children wishing to  
10 attend such programs. No school district may be granted such a waiver  
11 more than once.] ANY SCHOOL DISTRICT THAT PROVIDES FULL DAY KINDERGARTEN  
12 PROGRAMS IN THE TWO THOUSAND FIFTEEN--TWO THOUSAND SIXTEEN SCHOOL YEAR  
13 OR SCHOOL DISTRICTS WHICH CONVERT TO A FULL DAY KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM IN  
14 ANY YEAR THEREAFTER SHALL NOT BE ELIGIBLE FOR FULL DAY KINDERGARTEN  
15 CONVERSION AID.

16 S 2. Subdivision 2 of section 3205 of the education law is amended by  
17 adding a new paragraph d to read as follows:

18 D. SCHOOL DISTRICTS THAT OFFER FULL DAY KINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS TO ALL  
19 CHILDREN IN THE TWO THOUSAND FIFTEEN--TWO THOUSAND SIXTEEN SCHOOL YEAR  
20 AND ANY YEAR THEREAFTER SHALL BE REQUIRED TO OFFER FULL DAY KINDERGARTEN  
21 TO ALL CHILDREN FIVE YEARS OF AGE ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER FIRST. SUCH  
22 SCHOOL DISTRICTS CANNOT REDUCE KINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS TO LESS THAN FULL  
23 DAY.

24 S 3. This act shall take effect immediately.