AN ACT to amend chapter 507 of the laws of 1974, relating to providing for the apportionment of state monies to certain nonpublic schools, to reimburse them for their expenses in complying with certain state requirements for the administration of state testing and evaluation programs and for participation in state programs for the reporting of basic educational data, in relation to holding harmless such monies due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Section 3 of chapter 507 of the laws of 1974, relating to providing for the apportionment of state monies to certain nonpublic schools, to reimburse them for their expenses in complying with certain state requirements for the administration of state testing and evaluation programs and for participation in state programs for the reporting of basic educational data, as amended by chapter 347 of the laws of 2018, is amended to read as follows:

§ 3. Apportionment. a. The commissioner shall annually apportion to each qualifying school, for school years beginning on and after July first, nineteen hundred seventy-four, an amount equal to the actual cost incurred by each such school during the preceding school year for providing services required by law to be rendered to the state in compliance with the requirements of the state's pupil evaluation program, the basic educational data system, regents examinations, the statewide evaluation plan, the uniform procedure for pupil attendance reporting, the state's immunization program and other similar state prepared examinations and reporting procedures.

b. Such nonpublic schools shall be eligible to receive aid based on the number of days or portion of days attendance is taken and either a 5.0/5.5 hour standard instructional day, or another work day as certified by the nonpublic school officials, in accordance with the methodology for computing salary and benefits applied by the department in paying aid for the two thousand twelve--two thousand thirteen and prior years.
such nonpublic schools shall be eligible to receive no
less than the highest of their aid in the last three years notwithstanding
the disruption of school functions which would otherwise affect such
schools' eligibility, including but not limited to the inability to
administer state assessments, due to the response of COVID-19.

c. The commissioner shall annually apportion to each qualifying
school in the cities of New York, Buffalo and Rochester, for school
years beginning on or after July first two thousand sixteen, an amount
equal to the actual cost incurred by each such school during the preced-
ing school year in meeting the recording and reporting requirements of
the state school immunization program, provided that the state's liabil-
ity shall be limited to the amount appropriated for this purpose.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.