

STATE OF NEW YORK

6961

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

March 18, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. CHLUDZINSKI, RA -- read once and referred to the
Committee on Libraries and Education Technology

AN ACT in relation to establishing a comprehensive study examining
public library aid formulas and library construction formulas

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

1 Section 1. Public library aid and public library construction aid
2 formulas study. The commissioner of education shall enter into a
3 contract with a third-party entity to conduct a comprehensive study of
4 the public library aid and public library construction aid formulas. The
5 contracted entity, in consultation with the department of education, the
6 division of budget and any other state agencies deemed necessary, shall
7 examine, evaluate, and recommend potential modifications to the calcu-
8 lation of public library aid formulas pursuant to sections 271, 273, 284
9 and 285 of the education law and the public library construction aid
10 formula pursuant to section 273-a of the education law. The contracted
11 entity shall gather and consider feedback from a broad range of stake-
12 holders, including but not limited to library systems, library adminis-
13 trators, library boards, municipal officials, school districts, and
14 library organizations. The contracted entity shall hold at least three
15 public hearings across the state to gather input from such stakeholders.

16 § 2. The results, findings, and recommendations of the study shall be
17 for study purposes only and shall not be considered binding upon the
18 executive or the legislature in any manner.

19 § 3. The study shall evaluate each component of the current public
20 library aid and public library construction aid formulas and other rele-
21 vant factors including but not limited to:

22 (a) whether the formulas ensure adequate and equitable funding for all
23 library systems;

24 (b) per capita aid calculations and their responsiveness to inflation
25 and population changes;

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

LBD08812-01-5

1 (c) maintenance of effort requirements for municipalities;
2 (d) outstanding capital improvement needs;
3 (e) technology access; and
4 (f) library operating aid and library construction aid funding models
5 used in other states.

6 § 4. No later than one year following the effective date of this act,
7 the contracted entity shall submit a report of its findings and recom-
8 mendations to the governor, the temporary president of the senate, the
9 minority leader of the senate, the speaker of the assembly, and the
10 minority leader of the assembly. The report shall also be published on
11 the contracted entity's public website and disseminated to all public
12 library systems in the state.

13 § 5. This act shall take effect immediately.