



General Assembly

February Session, 2018

Bill No. 542

LCO No. 3484



Referred to Committee on No Committee

Introduced by:

SEN. LOONEY, 11th Dist.

SEN. DUFF, 25th Dist.

SEN. FASANO, 34th Dist.

SEN. WITKOS, 8th Dist.

REP. ARESIMOWICZ, 30th Dist.

REP. RITTER M., 1st Dist.

REP. KLARIDES, 114th Dist.

REP. CANDELORA, 86th Dist.

AN ACT WAIVING ANY PENALTIES IMPOSED ON A BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR MAKING REDUCTIONS TO ITS BUDGETED APPROPRIATION FOR EDUCATION AS A RESULT OF CUTS TO ITS EDUCATION COST-SHARING GRANT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) Notwithstanding the provisions of
2 subsection (e) of section 10-262i of the general statutes, in the case of a
3 town (1) whose equalization aid grant for the fiscal year ending June
4 30, 2018, was reduced as a result of reductions in allotments pursuant
5 to section 13 or 14 of public act 17-2 of the June special session or
6 withholding or reductions of state financial assistance pursuant to
7 subsection (d) of section 12-170f of the general statutes, and (2) that
8 subsequently reduced its budgeted appropriation for education for
9 said fiscal year in an amount up to such reduction to its equalization
10 aid grant, the State Board of Education shall not make a determination
11 that such town failed to meet the requirements of section 10-262j of the

12 general statutes, as amended by this act, and shall not require that such
13 town forfeit an amount equal to two times the reduction to such town's
14 budgeted appropriation for education.

15 Sec. 2. Subsection (b) of section 10-262j of the 2018 supplement to the
16 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
17 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

18 (b) Except as otherwise provided under the provisions of
19 subsections (c) to [(e)] (f), inclusive, of this section, for the fiscal year
20 ending June 30, 2019, [the] a town's budgeted appropriation for
21 education shall be not less than the budgeted appropriation for
22 education for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, prior to any
23 reductions made by such town to its budgeted appropriation for
24 education because of withholdings or reductions made to its
25 equalization aid grant pursuant to section 13 or 14 of public act 17-2 of
26 the June special session or subsection (d) of section 12-170f, plus any
27 aid increase received pursuant to subsection (d) of section 10-262i,
28 except that a town may reduce its budgeted appropriation for
29 education for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, by one or more of
30 the following:

31 (1) If a town experiences an aid reduction, as described in
32 subsection (d) of section 10-262i, such town may reduce its budgeted
33 appropriation for education in an amount equal to the aid reduction;

34 (2) Any district with (A) a resident student population in which the
35 number of students who are eligible for free or reduced price lunches
36 pursuant to federal law and regulations is equal to or greater than
37 twenty per cent, and (B) a resident student count for October 1, 2017,
38 using the data of record as of January 31, 2018, that is lower than such
39 district's resident student count for October 1, 2016, using the data of
40 record as of January 31, 2018, may reduce such district's budgeted
41 appropriation for education by the difference in the number of resident
42 students for such years multiplied by fifty per cent of the net current

43 expenditures per resident student of such district, provided such
44 reduction shall not exceed one and one-half per cent of the district's
45 budgeted appropriation for education for the fiscal year ending June
46 30, 2018, except that the Commissioner of Education may, following a
47 review of a town's proposed reductions to its budgeted appropriation
48 for education, permit a town to reduce its budgeted appropriation for
49 education in an amount greater than one and one-half per cent if the
50 board of education for such town has approved, by vote at a meeting
51 duly called, such proposed reductions;

52 (3) Any district with (A) a resident student population in which the
53 number of students who are eligible for free or reduced price lunches
54 pursuant to federal law and regulations is less than twenty per cent,
55 and (B) a resident student count for October 1, 2017, using the data of
56 record as of January 31, 2018, that is lower than such district's resident
57 student count for October 1, 2016, using the data of record as of
58 January 31, 2018, may reduce such district's budgeted appropriation
59 for education by the difference in the number of resident students for
60 such years multiplied by fifty per cent of the net current expenditures
61 per resident student, as defined in subdivision (45) of section 10-262f,
62 of such district, provided such reduction shall not exceed three per
63 cent of the district's budgeted appropriation for education for the fiscal
64 year ending June 30, 2018, except that the Commissioner of Education
65 may, following a review of a town's proposed reductions to its
66 budgeted appropriation for education, permit a town to reduce its
67 budgeted appropriation for education in an amount greater than three
68 per cent if the board of education for such town has approved, by vote
69 at a meeting duly called, such proposed reductions;

70 (4) Any district (A) that does not maintain a high school and pays
71 tuition to another school district pursuant to section 10-33 for resident
72 students to attend high school in another district, and (B) in which the
73 number of resident students attending high school for such district for
74 October 1, 2017, using the data of record as of January 31, 2018, is
75 lower than such district's number of resident students attending high

76 school for October 1, 2016, using the data of record as of January 31,
77 2018, may reduce such district's budgeted appropriation for education
78 by the difference in the number of resident students attending high
79 school for such years multiplied by the amount of tuition paid per
80 student pursuant to section 10-33; or

81 (5) Any district that realizes new and documentable savings
82 through increased district efficiencies approved by the Commissioner
83 of Education or through regional collaboration or cooperative
84 arrangements pursuant to section 10-158a may reduce such district's
85 budgeted appropriation for education in an amount equal to half of the
86 amount of savings experienced as a result of such district efficiencies,
87 regional collaboration or cooperative arrangement, provided such
88 reduction shall not exceed one-half of one per cent of the district's
89 budgeted appropriation for education for the fiscal year ending June
90 30, 2017.

91 Sec. 3. Subdivision (2) of subsection (d) of section 10-262i of the 2018
92 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is
93 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

94 (2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, (A) if the amount of the
95 equalization aid grant a town is entitled to pursuant to section 10-262h
96 is greater than [the] such town's equalization aid grant amount [such
97 town received] for the previous fiscal year, the difference between the
98 amount of such town's equalization aid grant for the fiscal year ending
99 June 30, 2019, and [the] such town's equalization aid grant amount
100 [such town received] for the previous fiscal year shall be the aid
101 increase for such town for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, and (B)
102 if the amount of the equalization aid grant a town is entitled to
103 pursuant to section 10-262h is less than [the] such town's equalization
104 aid grant amount [such town received] for the previous fiscal year, the
105 difference between [the] such town's equalization aid grant amount
106 [such town received] for the previous fiscal year and the amount of
107 such town's equalization aid grant for the fiscal year ending June 30,

108 2019, shall be the aid reduction for such town for the fiscal year ending
109 June 30, 2019. For purposes of this subdivision, "equalization aid grant
110 amount for the previous fiscal year" means the equalization aid grant
111 amount a town was entitled to pursuant to section 10-262h for the
112 fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, prior to any reductions made to such
113 town's equalization aid grant during the fiscal year ending June 30,
114 2018, as a result of reductions in allotments pursuant to section 13 or 14
115 of public act 17-2 of the June special session or withholding or
116 reductions of state financial assistance pursuant to subsection (d) of
117 section 12-170f.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	10-262j(b)
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	10-262i(d)(2)