

Public Law 104-195
104th Congress

An Act

To amend the Impact Aid program to provide for a hold-harmless with respect to amounts for payments relating to the Federal acquisition of real property, and for other purposes.

Sept. 16, 1996

[H.R. 3269]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. HOLD-HARMLESS AMOUNTS FOR PAYMENTS RELATING TO FEDERAL ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY.

Section 8002 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7702) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsections:

“(g) FORMER DISTRICTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Where the school district of any local educational agency described in paragraph (2) is formed at any time after 1938 by the consolidation of two or more former school districts, such agency may elect (at any time such agency files an application under section 8005) for any fiscal year after fiscal year 1994 to have (A) the eligibility of such local educational agency, and (B) the amount which such agency shall be eligible to receive, determined under this section only with respect to such of the former school districts comprising such consolidated school districts as such agency shall designate in such election.

“(2) ELIGIBLE LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCIES.—A local educational agency referred to in paragraph (1) is any local educational agency that, for fiscal year 1994 or any preceding fiscal year, applied for and was determined eligible under section 2(c) of the Act of September 30, 1950 (Public Law 874, 81st Congress) as such section was in effect for such fiscal year.

“(h) HOLD-HARMLESS AMOUNTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2)(A), the total amount that the Secretary shall pay under subsection (b) to a local educational agency that is otherwise eligible for a payment under this section—

“(A) for fiscal year 1995 shall not be less than 85 percent of the amount such agency received for fiscal year 1994 under section 2 of the Act of September 30, 1950 (Public Law 874, 81st Congress) as such section was in effect on September 30, 1994; or

“(B) for fiscal year 1996 shall not be less than 85 percent of the amount such agency received for fiscal year 1995 under subsection (b).

“(2) RATABLY REDUCTIONS.—(A)(i) If necessary in order to make payments to local educational agencies in accordance with paragraph (1) for any fiscal year, the Secretary first shall ratably reduce payments under subsection (b) for such year to local educational agencies that do not receive a payment under this subsection for such year.

“(ii) If additional funds become available for making payments under subsection (b) for such year, then payments that were reduced under clause (i) shall be increased on the same basis as such payments were reduced.

“(B)(i) If the sums made available under this title for any fiscal year are insufficient to pay the full amounts that all local educational agencies in all States are eligible to receive under paragraph (1) after the application of subparagraph (A) for such year, then the Secretary shall ratably reduce payments under paragraph (1) to all such agencies for such year.

“(ii) If additional funds become available for making payments under paragraph (1) for such fiscal year, then payments that were reduced under clause (i) shall be increased on the same basis as such payments were reduced.”.

SEC. 2. APPLICATIONS FOR INCREASED PAYMENTS.

South Dakota.

(a) PAYMENTS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law—

(1) the Bonesteel-Fairfax School District Number 26-5, South Dakota, and the Wagner Community School District Number 11-4, South Dakota, shall be eligible to apply for payment for fiscal year 1994 under section 3(d)(2)(B) of the Act of September 30, 1950 (Public Law 874, 81st Congress) (as such section was in effect on September 30, 1994); and

(2) the Secretary of Education shall use a subgroup of 10 or more generally comparable local educational agencies for the purpose of calculating a payment described in paragraph (1) for a local educational agency described in such paragraph.

(b) APPLICATION.—In order to be eligible to receive a payment described in subsection (a), a school district described in such subsection shall apply for such payment within 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

(c) CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to require a local educational agency that received a payment under section 3(d)(2)(B) of the Act of September 30, 1950 (Public Law 874, 81st Congress) (as such section was in effect on September 30, 1994) for fiscal year 1994 to return such payment or a portion of such payment to the Federal Government.

SEC. 3. PAYMENTS FOR ELIGIBLE FEDERALLY CONNECTED CHILDREN RESIDING ON MILITARY INSTALLATION HOUSING UNDERGOING RENOVATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 8003(a) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7703(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(4) MILITARY INSTALLATION HOUSING UNDERGOING RENOVATION.—For purposes of computing the amount of a payment for a local educational agency for children described in paragraph (1)(D)(i), the Secretary shall consider such children to be children described in paragraph (1)(B) if the Secretary determines, on the basis of a certification provided to the Secretary by a designated representative of the Secretary of Defense, that such children would have resided in housing on Federal

property in accordance with paragraph (1)(B) except that such housing was undergoing renovation on the date for which the Secretary determines the number of children under paragraph (1).”.

(b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—Paragraph (4) of section 8003(a) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as added by subsection (a), shall apply with respect to fiscal years after fiscal year 1995.

20 USC 7703
note.

SEC. 4. COMPUTATION OF PAYMENTS FOR ELIGIBLE FEDERALLY CONNECTED CHILDREN IN STATES WITH ONLY ONE LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 8003(b) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7703(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(3) **STATES WITH ONLY ONE LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY.**—

“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—In any of the 50 States of the United States in which there is only one local educational agency, the Secretary shall, for purposes of paragraphs (1)(B), (1)(C), and (2) of this subsection, and subsection (e), consider each administrative school district in the State to be a separate local educational agency.

“(B) **COMPUTATION OF MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF BASIC SUPPORT PAYMENT AND THRESHOLD PAYMENT.**—In computing the maximum payment amount under paragraph (1)(C) and the learning opportunity threshold payment under paragraph (2)(B) for an administrative school district described in subparagraph (A)—

“(i) the Secretary shall first determine the maximum payment amount and the total current expenditures for the State as a whole; and

“(ii) the Secretary shall then—

“(I) proportionately allocate such maximum payment amount among the administrative school districts on the basis of the respective weighted student units of such districts; and

“(II) proportionately allocate such total current expenditures among the administrative school districts on the basis of the respective number of students in average daily attendance at such districts.”.

(b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—Paragraph (3) of section 8003(b) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as added by subsection (a), shall apply with respect to fiscal years after fiscal year 1994.

20 USC 7703
note.

SEC. 5. DATA AND DETERMINATION OF AVAILABLE FUNDS.

(a) **DATA.**—Paragraph (4) of section 8003(f) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7703(f)) is amended—

(1) in the heading, by striking “CURRENT YEAR”;

(2) by amending subparagraph (A) to read as follows:

“(A) shall use student, revenue, and tax data from the second fiscal year preceding the fiscal year for which the local educational agency is applying for assistance under this subsection;” and

(3) in subparagraph (B), by striking “such year” and inserting “the fiscal year for which the local educational agency is applying for assistance under this subsection”.

(b) DETERMINATION OF AVAILABLE FUNDS.—Paragraph (3) of section 8003(f) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7703(f)) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding subclause (I) of subparagraph (A)(iii), by inserting “, except as provided in subparagraph (C),” after “but”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(C) DETERMINATION OF AVAILABLE FUNDS.—When determining the amount of funds available to the local educational agency for current expenditures for purposes of subparagraph (A)(iii) for a fiscal year, the Secretary shall include, with respect to the local educational agency’s opening cash balance for such fiscal year, the portion of such balance that is the greater of—

“(i) the amount that exceeds the maximum amount of funds for current expenditures that the local educational agency was allowed by State law to carry over from the prior fiscal year, if State restrictions on such amounts were applied uniformly to all local educational agencies in the State; or

“(ii) the amount that exceeds 30 percent of the local educational agency’s operating costs for the prior fiscal year.”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsections (a) and (b) shall apply with respect to fiscal years after fiscal year 1996.

SEC. 6. PAYMENTS RELATING TO FEDERAL PROPERTY.

Section 8002 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7702) (as amended by section 1) is further amended by adding at the end thereof the following new subsection:

“(i) PRIORITY PAYMENTS.—Notwithstanding subsection (b)(1)(B), and for any fiscal year beginning with fiscal year 1997 for which the amount appropriated to carry out this section exceeds the amount so appropriated for fiscal year 1996, the Secretary shall first use such excess amount to increase the payment that would otherwise be made under this section to not more than 50 percent of the maximum amount determined under subsection (b) for any local educational agency that—

“(1) received a payment under this section for fiscal year 1996;

“(2) serves a school district that contains all or a portion of a United States military academy;

“(3) serves a school district in which the local tax assessor has certified that at least 60 percent of the real property is federally owned; and

“(4) demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Secretary that such agency’s per-pupil revenue derived from local sources for current expenditures is not less than that revenue for the preceding fiscal year.”.

SEC. 7. TREATMENT OF IMPACT AID PAYMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Education shall treat any State as having met the requirements of section 5(d)(2)(A) of the Act of September 30, 1950 (Public Law 874, 81st Congress) for

fiscal year 1991 (as such section was in effect for such fiscal year), and as not having met those requirements for each of the fiscal years 1992, 1993, and 1994 (as such section was in effect for fiscal year 1992, 1993, and 1994, respectively), if—

(1) the State's program of State aid was not certified by the Secretary under section 5(d)(2)(C)(i) of the Act of September 30, 1950 (Public Law 874, 81st Congress) for any fiscal year prior to fiscal year 1991;

(2) the State submitted timely notice under that section of the State's intention to seek that certification for fiscal year 1991;

(3) the Secretary determined that the State did not meet the requirements of section 5(d)(2)(A) of such Act for fiscal year 1991; and

(4) the State made a payment to each local educational agency in the State (other than a local educational agency that received a payment under section 3(d)(2)(B) of such Act for fiscal year 1991) in an amount equal to the difference between the amount such agency received under such Act for fiscal year 1991 and the amount such agency would have received under such Act for fiscal year 1991 if payments under such Act had not been taken into consideration in awarding State aid to such agencies for fiscal year 1991.

(b) REPAYMENT NOT REQUIRED.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any local educational agency in a State that meets the requirements of paragraphs (1) through (4) of subsection (a) and that received funds under section 3(d)(2)(B) of the Act of September 30, 1950 (Public Law 874, 81st Congress) for fiscal year 1991 (as such section was in effect for such fiscal year) shall not, by virtue of subsection (a), be required to repay those funds to the Secretary of Education.

SEC. 8. SPECIAL RULE RELATING TO AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS FOR THE LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY SERVING THE NORTH HANOVER TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS, NEW JERSEY, UNDER PUBLIC LAW 874, 81ST CONGRESS.

The Secretary of Education shall not consider any funds that the Secretary of Education determines the local educational agency serving the North Hanover Township Public Schools, New Jersey, has designated for a future liability under an early retirement incentive program as funds available to such local educational agency for purposes of determining the eligibility of such local educational agency for a payment for fiscal year 1994, or the amount of any such payment, under section 3(d)(2)(B) of the Act of September 30, 1950 (Public Law 874, 81st Congress), as such section was in effect for such fiscal year.

SEC. 9. CORRECTED LOCAL CONTRIBUTION RATE.

(a) COMPUTATION.—The Secretary of Education shall compute a payment for a local educational agency under the Act of September 30, 1950 (Public Law 874, 81st Congress) for each of the fiscal years 1991 through 1994 (as such Act was in effect for each of those fiscal years, as the case may be) using a corrected local contribution rate based on generally comparable school districts, if—

(1) an incorrect local contribution rate was submitted to the Secretary of Education by the State in which such agency

is located, and the incorrect local contribution rate was verified as correct by the Secretary of Education; and

(2) the corrected local contribution rate is subject to review by the Secretary of Education.

(b) **PAYMENT.**—Using funds appropriated under the Act of September 30, 1950 (Public Law 874, 81st Congress) for fiscal years 1991 through 1994 that remain available for obligation (if any), the Secretary of Education shall make payments based on the computations described in subsection (a) to the local educational agency for such fiscal years.

SEC. 10. STATE EQUALIZATION PLANS.

Subparagraph (A) of section 8009(b)(2) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7709(b)(2)) is amended by striking “more than” and all that follows through the period and inserting “more than 25 percent.”.

Approved September 16, 1996.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H.R. 3269 (S. 1509):

HOUSE REPORTS: No. 104-560 (Comm. on Economic and Educational Opportunities).

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

Vol. 141 (1995): Dec. 22, S. 1509 considered and passed Senate.

Vol. 142 (1996): May 7, H.R. 3269 considered and passed House.

Aug. 2, considered and passed Senate, amended.

Sept. 4, House concurred in Senate amendment.