

94TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY State of Illinois 2005 and 2006 SB2167

Introduced 1/4/2006, by Sen. Pamela J. Althoff

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

30 ILCS 805/8

from Ch. 85, par. 2208

Amends the State Mandates Act. With respect to State mandates on school districts that are otherwise reimbursable under the Act, provides that if a bill of the General Assembly includes an express exclusion of the applicability of the Act or contains any other provision that would make inoperative the reimbursement requirements of the Act, then the bill must be passed by the vote of three-fifths of the members elected to each house of the General Assembly. Effective immediately.

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1 AN ACT concerning education.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly:

- Section 5. The State Mandates Act is amended by changing Section 8 as follows:
- 6 (30 ILCS 805/8) (from Ch. 85, par. 2208)
- Sec. 8. Exclusions, reimbursement application, review, appeals, and adjudication.
 - Exclusions: Any of the following circumstances inherent to, or associated with, a mandate shall exclude the State from reimbursement liability under this Act. If the mandate (1) accommodates a request from local governments or organizations thereof; (2) imposes additional duties of a nature which can be carried out by existing staff and procedures at no appreciable net cost increase; (3) creates but additional costs also provides offsetting resulting in no aggregate increase in net costs; (4) imposes a cost that is wholly or largely recovered from Federal, State or other external financial aid; (5) imposes additional annual net costs of less than \$1,000 for each of the several local governments affected or less than \$50,000, in the aggregate, for all local governments affected.

The failure of the General Assembly to make necessary appropriations shall relieve the local government of the obligation to implement any service mandates, tax exemption mandates, and personnel mandates, as specified in Section 6, subsections (b), (c), (d) and (e), unless the exclusion provided for in this Section are explicitly stated in the Act establishing the mandate. In the event that funding is not provided for a State-mandated program by the General Assembly, the local government may implement or continue the program upon approval of its governing body. If the local government

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approves the program and funding is subsequently provided, the State shall reimburse the local governments only for costs incurred subsequent to the funding.

- (b) Reimbursement Estimation and Appropriation Procedure.
- (1) When a bill is introduced in the General Assembly, the Legislative Reference Bureau, hereafter referred to as the Bureau, shall determine whether such bill may require reimbursement to local governments pursuant to this Act. The Bureau shall make such determination known in the Legislative Synopsis and Digest.

In making the determination required by this subsection (b) the Bureau shall disregard any provision in a bill which would make inoperative the reimbursement requirements of Section 6 above, including an express exclusion of the applicability of this Act, and shall make the determination irrespective of any such provision.

(2) Any bill or amended bill which creates or expands a State mandate shall be subject to the provisions of "An Act requiring fiscal notes in relation to certain bills", approved June 4, 1965, as amended. The fiscal notes for such bills or amended bills shall include estimates of the costs to local government and the costs reimbursement required under this Act. In the case of bills having a potential fiscal impact on units of local government, the fiscal note shall be prepared by the Department. In the case of bills having a potential fiscal impact on school districts, the fiscal note shall be prepared by the State Superintendent of Education. In the case of bills having a potential fiscal impact on community college districts, the fiscal note shall be prepared by the Illinois Community College Board. Such fiscal note shall accompany the bill that requires State reimbursement and shall be prepared prior to any final action on such a bill by the assigned committee. However, if a fiscal note is not by the appropriate agency within 30 introduction of a bill, the bill can be heard in committee

and advanced to the order of second reading. The bill shall then remain on second reading until a fiscal note is filed. A bill discharged from committee shall also remain on second reading until a fiscal note is provided by the appropriate agency.

- (3) The estimate required by paragraph (2) above, shall include the amount estimated to be required during the first fiscal year of a bill's operation in order to reimburse local governments pursuant to Section 6, for costs mandated by such bill. In the event that the effective date of such a bill is not the first day of the fiscal year the estimate shall also include the amount estimated to be required for reimbursement for the next following full fiscal year.
- (4) For the initial fiscal year, reimbursement funds shall be provided as follows: (i) any statute mandating such costs shall have a companion appropriation bill, and (ii) any executive order mandating such costs shall be accompanied by a bill to appropriate the funds therefor, or, alternatively an appropriation for such funds shall be included in the executive budget for the next following fiscal year.

In subsequent fiscal years appropriations for such costs shall be included in the Governor's budget or supplemental appropriation bills.

- (5) With respect to State mandates on school districts that are otherwise reimbursable under this Act, beginning on the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 94th General Assembly, if a bill includes an express exclusion of the applicability of this Act or contains any other provision that would make inoperative the reimbursement requirements of this Act, then the bill must be passed by the vote of three-fifths of the members elected to each house of the General Assembly.
- (c) Reimbursement Application and Disbursement Procedure.
 - (1) For the initial fiscal year during which

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reimbursement is authorized, each local government, or more than one local government wishing to join in filing a entitled single claim, believing itself to be reimbursement under this Act shall submit the Department, State Superintendent of Education or Illinois Community College Board within 60 days of the effective date of the mandate a claim for reimbursement accompanied by its estimate of the increased costs required by the mandate for the balance of the fiscal year. The Department, State Superintendent of Education or Illinois Community College Board shall review such claim and estimate, shall apportion the claim into 3 equal installments and shall direct the Comptroller to pay the installments at equal intervals throughout the remainder of the fiscal year from the funds appropriated for such purposes, provided that the Department, State Superintendent of Education or Illinois Community College Board may (i) audit the records of any local government to verify the actual amount of mandated cost, and (ii) reduce any claim determined to be excessive or unreasonable.

(2) For the subsequent fiscal years, local governments shall submit claims as specified above on or before October 1 of each year. The Department, State Superintendent of Education or Illinois Community College Board shall apportion the claims into 3 equal installments and shall direct the Comptroller to pay the first installment upon approval of the claims, with subsequent installments to follow on January 1 and March 1, such claims to be paid appropriated therefor, provided from funds that Department, State Superintendent of Education or Illinois Community College Board (i) may audit the records of any local governments to verify the actual amount of the mandated cost, (ii) may reduce any claim, determined to be excessive or unreasonable, and (iii) shall adjust the payment to correct for any underpayments or overpayments which occurred in the previous fiscal year.

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(3) Any funds received by a local government pursuant to this Act may be used for any public purpose.

If the funds appropriated for reimbursement of the costs of local government resulting from the creation or expansion of a State mandate are less than the total of the approved claims, the amount appropriated shall be prorated among the local governments having approved claims.

- (d) Appeals and Adjudication.
- (1) Local governments may appeal determinations made by State agencies acting pursuant to subsection (c) above. The appeal must be submitted to the State Mandates Board of Review created by Section 9.1 of this Act within 60 days following the date of receipt of the determination being appealed. The appeal must include evidence as to the extent to which the mandate has been carried out in an effective manner and executed without recourse to standards of staffing or expenditure higher than specified in the mandatory statute, if such standards are specified in the statute. State Mandates Board of Review, after reviewing the evidence submitted to it, may increase or reduce the amount of a reimbursement claim. The decision of the State Mandates Board of Review shall be final subject to judicial review. However, if sufficient funds have not been appropriated, the Department shall notify the General Assembly of such cost, and appropriations for such costs shall be included in a supplemental appropriation bill.
- (2) A local government may also appeal directly to the State Mandates Board of Review in those situations in which the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Community Affairs does not act upon the local government's application for reimbursement or request for mandate determination submitted under this Act. The appeal must include evidence that the application for reimbursement or request for mandate determination was properly filed and should have been reviewed by the Department.

An appeal may be made to the Board if the Department

- does not respond to a local government's application for reimbursement or request for mandate determination within l20 days after filing the application or request. In no case, however, may an appeal be brought more than one year after the application or request is filed with the Department.
- 7 (Source: P.A. 89-304, eff. 8-11-95; 89-626, eff. 8-9-96; 8 revised 12-6-03.)
- 9 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon 10 becoming law.