

CHAPTER 125

AN ACT concerning the funding of certain preschool programs and amending N.J.S.18A:44-4.

BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:*

1. N.J.S.18A:44-4 is amended to read as follows:

Expenses; how paid.

18A:44-4. a. Except as otherwise provided pursuant to subsection b. of this section, the expenses of preschool schools or departments and of kindergarten schools or departments shall be paid out of any moneys available for the general fund expenses of the schools, and in the same manner and under the same restrictions as the expenses of other schools or departments are paid, except when wholly or partly subsidized by restricted funding sources or restricted endowments.

b. In the case of a non-Abbott school district which is not required to operate a preschool program pursuant to section 16 of P.L.1996, c.138 (C.18A:7F-16) and which does not receive early childhood program aid pursuant to that section, the district may collect tuition from the parents or guardians of students enrolled in a preschool school or department in an amount not to exceed the per pupil cost of the preschool program.

2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall first apply to the 2004-2005 school year.

Approved August 20, 2004.