

VETO MESSAGE:

VETO MESSAGE - No. 167

TO THE SENATE:

I am returning herewith, without my approval, the following bill:

Senate Bill Number 6490-A, entitled:

"AN ACT to amend chapter 566 of the laws of 1967, relating to providing for the apportionment of funds to certain special act school districts, in relation to eliminating reference to such union free school district number 13; to amend the education law, in relation to special act school districts and to repeal chapter 559 of the laws of 1972, relating to establishing union free school district number 13 in the town of Greenburgh in the county of Westchester, relating to the dissolution of such union free school district"

NOT APPROVED

Each of these bills seeks the closure of a "special act" school district: one would close the West Park Union Free School in the Town of Esopus; and the other would close Union Free School District Number 13 in the Town of Greenburgh which is associated with the Abbott House, Inc. While each is needed for an orderly close-down of a district, each bill would impose the costs of future health insurance for the district's retirees on the taxpayers of the school districts and social service districts that placed students in these schools during the 2010-2011 school year. While I sympathize with the plight of these retirees, I cannot approve transferring these costs to taxpayers in the placing districts. Many special act school districts are in decline, and we need to work together to develop a more comprehensive and equitable global solution.

The bills is disapproved.

(signed) ANDREW M. CUOMO
