ORTHODOX UNION





Parents of Special Needs children face a very difficult situation every year. Do they send their child to a Special Education Day School that can cost \$45,000, or do they send their child to a Special Education program in the local Public School that is free? Do they keep their children in a Jewish day school and not even provide these services due to lack of financial means?

Unfortunately, based on the current Special Education Law in New Jersey, they are unable to have their child assigned to a Religious Special Education Day School because the law doesn't allow such placement.

List of Sponsors

If you see your elected officials name below they have already sponsored

OU PROPOSED SPECIAL NEEDS LEGISLATION;

Will Save Families Tens of Thousands of Dollars

Special Education Bill

S-1929 and A-2869 are companion bills, sponsored by the OU, pending in the New Jersey Legislature that will assist our community's schools and families deal with the cost of special education. The legislation will change the wording in the current Special Ed law that does NOT allow a School District to assign a Special Education student to a Sectarian Non-Public School. The amended language will remove that restriction and thereby give school districts the option of assigning a Special Education student to an accredited religious non public school as long as the funding is only used for non sectarian programs and services and is paid to the school after receiving an itemized bill for the services rendered.

What it means for our community?

The passage of this bill will most certainly help families with children who have special needs better afford the cost of a Jewish education. A school district placement to

the bill. Please thank them for their support when you call their office.

Senate

- Weinberg, Loretta as Primary Sponsor
- Beck, Jennifer as Primary Sponsor
- Singer, Robert W. as Co-Sponsor
- Codey, Richard J. as Co-Sponsor
- Gordon, Robert M. as Co-Sponsor
- Lesniak, Raymond J. as Co-Sponsor
- Kyrillos, Joseph M., Jr. as Co-Sponsor
- Sarlo, Paul A. as Co-Sponsor Assembly
 - Vainieri Huttle, Valerie as Primary Sponsor
 - Handlin, Amy H. as Primary Sponsor
 - Barnes, Peter J., III as Primary Sponsor
 - Schaer, Gary S. as Primary Sponsor
 - Kean, Sean T. as Co-Sponsor
 - Giblin, Thomas P. as Co-Sponsor
 - McKeon, John F. as Co-Sponsor
 - Simon, Donna M. as Co-Sponsor
 - Angelini, Mary Pat as Co-Sponsor
 - Eustace, Timothy J. as Co-Sponsor
 - Wagner, Connie as Co-Sponsor
 - Caride, Marlene as Co-Sponsor
 - DeCroce, BettyLou as Co-Sponsor
 - Jasey, Mila M. as Co-Sponsor
 - · Casagrande, Caroline as Co-

a school like Sinai would provide more than \$35,000 per year (paying only the Secular services and programs) alleviating a major financial burden for those families.

What can you do to help?

The bill has been posted at the Senate Education Committee this coming Thursday, June 20th.

We need you to call the members of this committee as soon as possible before Tuesday, June 18th and ask them to vote yes on S-1929 at the committee hearing.

Senator Teresa Ruiz, Chalrperson – 973-484-1000 Senator Diane Allen – 609-239-2800 Senator James Beach – 856-429-1572 Senator Michael Doherty – 908-835-0552 Senator Shirley Turner – 609-530-3277

Thank you.

For more information, please contact the NJVOTES office at 201-416-7740 or email <u>jp@ou.org</u>

- Sponsor
- Johnson, Gordon M. as Co-Sponsor
- Rible, David P. as Co-Sponsor

Find your legislators <u>here</u>, and call, write, or email them in support of this bill.

<u>Unsubscribe</u>