

**Amendments to Senate S6257-A; Assembly A9057-A
(ELFA Article VII Bill)**

Part A, relating to the implementation of the 2012-13 Executive Budget School Aid proposal is amended to:

- Clarify requirements for new teacher and principal evaluations that school districts must implement by January 17, 2013 to qualify for an increase in School Aid;
- Require that a city school district with a population of 1 million or more adopt an expeditious appeals process pertaining to the annual professional performance review of classroom teachers and building principals to qualify for an increase in School Aid; and
- Provide bonus points to applicants for school district management efficiency grants that implement a new teacher and principal evaluation system by September 1, 2012 and extend the date for when these grants are first awarded.

Part A-1, relating to annual professional performance reviews of classroom teachers and building principals is added to:

- Require 60 percent of a teacher's evaluation to be based on rigorous and nationally recognized measures of teacher performance. Under this legislation, a majority of the teacher performance points will be based on classroom observations by an administrator or principal, and at least one observation will be unannounced. The remaining points will be based upon defined standards including observations by independent trained evaluators, peer classroom observations, student and parent feedback from evaluators, and evidence of performance through student portfolios.
- Require 40 percent of a teacher's evaluation to be based on student academic achievement, with at least 20 percent from state testing and the remainder from a list of three testing options including state tests, third party assessments/tests approved by the SED and locally developed tests that will be subject to SED review and approval. Under the plan, school districts will also have the option of using state tests to measure up to 40 percent of a teacher's rating.
- Significantly tighten the scoring system to ensure student achievement and teacher performance are both properly taken into account for teacher ratings. Scoring ranges for ratings are established as follows:
 - Highly Effective: 91 - 100
 - Effective: 75 - 90
 - Developing: 65 - 74
 - Ineffective: 0 - 64
- Give the Commissioner of Education the authority to approve or disapprove local evaluation plans. This will add rigor to the process and ensure evaluation plans comply with the law.

Part A-2, relating to expedited appeals process for New York City is added to:

- Expedite and streamline the appeals process for the New York City School District that becomes effective on January 16, 2013; and
- Provide an independent third party validator to observe and work with all teachers who are rated ineffective.