

Mandate Review Request #2012040014

Note: All information below was provided by the local government/Mandate Relief Council Member requesting that a mandate be reviewed. Neither the Council nor its staff has verified the accuracy of the information provided or made any other edits.

Name of Local Government: Potsdam Central School District
Type of Local Government: School District
County: 11779

Name of Mandate: Triborough Amendment

Type of Mandate: Statute

Citation for Mandate: Amendment (clause (e) of subdivision 1 of section 209-a of the Civil Service Law

Description of Mandate: The Triborough Amendment to the state's Taylor Law requires school districts to pay salary increases in the form of "step" and "lane" increments to employees – even after a collective bargaining agreement expires. Step and lane increases are salary increases that teachers receive for accumulating another year of service or attaining additional education and are unrelated to performance.

Recommended Change: Reform New York State's Triborough Amendment so that school districts are not required to pay wage increases under an expired contract.

Estimated Savings from the Recommended Change to the Local Government: \$147,497 annually

Estimated Statewide Savings from the Recommended Change: \$93.5 million annually

Description of Methodology Used in Estimating Savings: By excluding wage increases from the Triborough Amendment, NYSSBA estimates that school districts in New York could save as much as \$93.5 million annually. This calculation is based on an average annual statewide salary step increase for teachers of 2 percent, an estimate by the New York State Association of Management

Advocates for School Labor Affairs. Applying this 2 percent estimate to total teacher salaries of \$18.7 billion in

the 2008-09 school year results in a total of \$374 million that is attributable to step increases.