

## HOUSE BILL NO. HB0160

School finance-full-day kindergarten programs.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Wasserburger, Harshman,  
McOmie and Warren and Senator(s) Coe, Massie  
and Sessions

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to school finance; providing assistance for  
2 school districts offering full-day kindergarten programs;  
3 imposing duties upon the department of education; providing  
4 for a study; providing appropriations; and providing for an  
5 effective date.

6

7 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

8

9 **Section 1.**

10

11 (a) The state department of education shall from  
12 funds made available under paragraph (c)(i) of this  
13 section, distribute assistance to school districts for the  
14 provision of full-day kindergarten programs in schools  
15 within the district receiving federal Title I funding and  
16 experiencing sixty percent (60%) or greater concentration

1 levels of students qualifying for the free and reduced  
2 price lunch under the national school lunch program  
3 established under 42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.

4

5 (b) In addition to subsection (a) of this section,  
6 the state department shall distribute assistance to school  
7 districts for full-day kindergarten programs in schools not  
8 qualifying under subsection (a) of this section but  
9 determined eligible under guidelines established by the  
10 state department of education. Guidelines established  
11 under this subsection shall give priority to those full-day  
12 kindergarten programs which are not eligible for or do not  
13 receive any federal or other sources of financial  
14 assistance. The state department may appoint an advisory  
15 group comprised of representatives of the education  
16 community to assist with establishing distribution  
17 guidelines under this subsection. Not later than August 1,  
18 2004, the state department shall notify school districts of  
19 the distribution guidelines developed under this subsection  
20 and shall report the guidelines to the joint education  
21 interim committee. Assistance under this subsection shall  
22 be distributed from amounts available under paragraph  
23 (c)(ii) of this section.

24

1           (c) The following amounts are appropriated from the  
2 general fund to the state department of education for  
3 distributions to school districts for full-day kindergarten  
4 programs:

5

6           (i) Three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000.00)  
7 for distributions to school districts as provided under  
8 subsection (a) of this section;

9

10           (ii) Three hundred thousand dollars  
11 (\$300,000.00) for distributions to school districts as  
12 provided under subsection (b) of this section.

13

14           (d) School districts receiving assistance under this  
15 section shall report expenditures to the department in the  
16 manner and at a date specified by the department. The  
17 department shall compile the reports and submit the  
18 compilation to the joint education interim committee on or  
19 before December 1, 2004.

20

21           **Section 2.**

22

23           (a) The joint education interim committee shall study  
24 the feasibility of implementing permanent funding for full-

1 day kindergarten programs within the education resource  
2 block grant model, which study shall address compulsory  
3 kindergarten attendance, shall include a comprehensive  
4 review of current full-day kindergarten programs provided  
5 by school districts, the source of funds operating existing  
6 programs and the percentage of students attending existing  
7 programs. Study findings together with necessary enabling  
8 legislation shall be prepared for the 2005 general  
9 legislative session.

10

11 (b) Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) is  
12 appropriated from the general fund to the legislative  
13 service office to fund the study specified under subsection  
14 (a) of this section. Funds appropriated under this  
15 subsection shall include funding necessary staff support  
16 and consultants to the legislature and any study advisory  
17 groups which may be assembled to assist with study efforts.  
18 Funds shall be expended only upon approval of the  
19 management council.

20

1           **Section 3.** This act is effective immediately upon  
2 completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law  
3 as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming  
4 Constitution.

5

6

(END)