

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0185

School finance-employee compensation and development.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Wasserburger, Bagby,
Bucholz, Esquibel, Harshman, Hinckley,
Jackson, Lubnau, Morgan, Powers, Reese,
Robinson and Thompson and Senator(s) Boggs,
Decaria, Job, Nicholas, Ross, Scott and Von
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A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to school finance; providing payments to
2 school districts to augment district employee compensation
3 as specified; imposing reporting requirements; providing an
4 appropriation; and providing for an effective date.

5

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

7

8 **Section 1.**

9

10 (a) Prior to reevaluation of the education resource
11 block grant model during the 2005 interim period preceding
12 the 2006 budget session of the legislature, as required
13 under W.S. 21-13-309(t), additional funding is provided
14 under subsection (b) of this section to school districts

1 during school year 2005-2006 for purposes of increasing
2 compensation for district professional, certified and
3 classified staff and assisting districts with the retention
4 and recruitment of employees. The legislature recognizes
5 that the additional funding made available under this
6 section is in excess of the cost-based levels established
7 by the educational resource block grant model under W.S.
8 21-13-309, as adjusted for inflation under W.S.
9 21-13-309(o)(i), and is not intended to reflect or be
10 incorporated into any cost-based component of or adjustment
11 to the model or to impose any condition upon or requirement
12 for model reevaluation under W.S. 21-13-309(t).

13

14 (b) Amounts received under this section shall be
15 applied to professional, certified and classified staff
16 compensation payable during school year 2005-2006 and may
17 also be used for contractual signing bonuses to augment
18 district recruiting efforts for this school year. The
19 department of education shall determine payments authorized
20 under this section for each district by multiplying two
21 thousand dollars (\$2,000.00) by each professional,
22 certified and classified staff employed by that district,
23 computed on a full-time equivalency (FTE) basis. This per
24 FTE amount includes benefits attributable to the respective

1 per FTE compensation adjustment. Any compensation
2 adjustment paid under this section shall not be included in
3 the transportation and special education adjustments to the
4 education resource block grant model under W.S. 21-13-320
5 and 21-13-321 for corresponding compensation adjustments
6 paid during school year 2005-2006 and reported for
7 reimbursement in the subsequent school year.

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9 (c) Payments to school districts computed under
10 subsection (b) of this section shall be made by the
11 department of education from amounts within the foundation
12 program account as appropriated by the legislature for
13 purposes of this section and shall be in addition to the
14 school year 2005-2006 foundation program amount computed
15 for each district under W.S. 21-13-309(p). If there is an
16 insufficient amount within the foundation program account
17 for payments under this section, the department shall make
18 a pro rata reduction in district payments.

19

20 (d) Payments received by school districts pursuant to
21 this section shall be expended only for compensation of
22 district professional, certified and classified employees
23 and for contractual signing bonuses. Expenditures of
24 payments under this section shall supplement any existing

1 district operating funds dedicated to employee
2 compensation. The intent of the additional payment is to
3 increase district salary levels and to enhance district
4 teacher recruiting capabilities, and not to expand the
5 numbers of district employees. On or before October 15,
6 2005, each district receiving a payment under this section
7 shall report actual or budgeted payment expenditures to the
8 department of education, in a form and manner specified by
9 the department, indicating salary levels adjusted under
10 this section by employee classification and seniority
11 level, amounts used for awarding contractual signing
12 bonuses and providing certification that the district is
13 otherwise in compliance with legislative intent specified
14 under this subsection. Reports by school districts shall
15 be certified in writing by the district superintendent and
16 the chairman of the district board of trustees. For each
17 district, payment expenditures shall be reflected as part
18 of teacher salary levels for purposes of establishing a
19 statewide salary level for school year 2005-2006. Upon
20 receipt, the department shall immediately compile the
21 district reports and submit the compilation to members of
22 the management council, joint education interim committee
23 and the joint appropriations interim committee, together

1 with the impact of payment expenditures upon comparisons of
2 statewide salary levels with national salary levels.

3

4 **Section 2.** For the period commencing July 1, 2005,
5 and ending June 30, 2006, twenty-eight million four hundred
6 fourteen thousand dollars (\$28,414,000.00) is appropriated
7 from amounts within the school foundation program account
8 for purposes of section 1 of this act.

9

10 **Section 3.** This act is effective July 1, 2005.

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12

(END)