

SENATE FILE NO. SF0047

School finance-amendments.

Sponsored by: Joint Education Interim Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to school finance; continuing assistance to
2 school districts for full-day kindergarten programs and the
3 summer school grant program; providing assistance to school
4 districts for health insurance; providing appropriations;
5 and providing for effective dates.

6

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

8

9 **Section 1.** 2004 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 108,
10 Sections 801 and 1001(a)(intro), (c)(intro), (i) and (g)
11 are amended to read:

12

13 [SECTION 8. FULL-DAY KINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS]

14

15 **Section 801.**

16

1 (a) To provide financial assistance to
2 school districts for the provision of full-day
3 kindergarten programs, each school district shall
4 for school ~~year~~years 2004-2005 and 2005-2006,
5 receive an amount payable from the school
6 foundation program account determined in
7 accordance with subsection (b) of this section.
8 This payment shall be made by the department of
9 education from amounts within the foundation
10 program account appropriated by the legislature
11 for purposes of this section and shall be in
12 addition to the foundation program amount
13 determined for each district under W.S.
14 21-13-309(p). If there is an insufficient amount
15 within the foundation program account for
16 payments under this section, the department shall
17 make a pro rata reduction in the payments to
18 districts for each kindergarten student.

19

20 (b) School year 2004-2005 payments to
21 school districts for full-day kindergarten
22 programs shall be computed by multiplying the
23 number of students enrolled in full-day
24 kindergarten programs within each district during

1 school year 2004-2005 by one thousand dollars
2 (\$1,000.00), and shall be distributed to
3 districts on February 15 together with foundation
4 program distributions for school year 2004-2005
5 under W.S. 21-13-313. School year 2005-2006
6 payments to school district for full-day
7 kindergarten programs shall be computed by
8 multiplying the number of students enrolled in
9 full-day kindergarten programs within each
10 district during school year 2005-2006 by one
11 thousand dollars (\$1,000.00), and shall be
12 distributed to districts together with school
13 year 2005-2006 foundation program distributions
14 under W.S. 21-13-313. For purposes of
15 computations under this subsection, the
16 kindergarten enrollment count for each district
17 shall be the enrollment taken during October,
18 2004 and October, 2005, as applicable.

19
20 (c) Each district shall report expenditures
21 of amounts distributed under subsection (b) of
22 this section to the department in the manner and
23 at the time specified by the department. Not
24 later than September 1, 2005, for school year

1 2004-2005 distributions, and September 1, 2006,
2 for school year 2005-2006 distributions, the
3 department shall provide a report of expenditures
4 broken down by district and expenditure category
5 to the joint education interim committee.

6
7 (d) Any charter school operating within a
8 district and providing a full-day kindergarten
9 program under a contract with the district shall
10 be eligible for funding from the district through
11 payment distributions available to the district
12 under this section.

13
14 [SECTION 10. SUMMER SCHOOL GRANT PROGRAM]

15
16 **Section 1001.**

17
18 (a) The summer school grant program is
19 established for the 2004 summer session and the
20 2005 summer session to provide financial
21 assistance to districts for the provision of
22 intervention and remediation instruction to
23 students beyond the required school year
24 specified by law under W.S. 21-4-301 and

1 21-13-307(a)(ii). Assistance made available
2 under the grant program shall supplement district
3 intervention and remediation programs and shall
4 be made available to students requiring
5 additional instruction to master statewide
6 content and performance standards prescribed by
7 the state board of education under W.S.
8 21-2-304(a)(iii) or otherwise seeking credit
9 recovery for promotion to the subsequent grade
10 level. Summer school programs eligible for
11 assistance under this section shall also:

12

13 (c) To receive grant assistance under this
14 section, a district shall apply to the department
15 of education on or before May 1, 2004, for school
16 year 2004-2005, and on or before April 1, 2005,
17 for school year 2005-2006. Application review by
18 the department shall be completed by June 1,
19 2004, for school year 2004-2005, and on or before
20 May 1, 2005, for school year 2005-2006. On or
21 before June 1, 2004, or May 1, 2005, districts
22 shall be notified by the department of any
23 estimated grant amount to be made available to
24 the district during the ~~2004~~-applicable summer

1 school session. Application to the department
2 shall be in a manner and form prescribed by the
3 department and shall include:

4
5 (i) An estimate of the number of
6 students to be enrolled in the summer school
7 intervention and remediation program during the
8 school year for which a grant is requested,
9 broken down by grade level;

10

11 (g) On or before December 1, 2004, and on
12 or before December 1, 2005, the department shall
13 review and report to the joint education interim
14 committee on summer school remediation and
15 intervention programs funded under this section,
16 evaluate program effectiveness and provide
17 recommendations for program improvement and
18 continuation.

19

20 **Section 2.**

21

22 (a) Prior to reevaluation of the education resource
23 block grant model during the 2005 interim period preceding
24 the 2006 budget session of the legislature, as required

1 under W.S. 21-13-309(t), additional funding is provided
2 under this section to assist school districts with the
3 expenses of health insurance coverage for district
4 employees during school year 2005-2006. The legislature
5 recognizes the burden placed on school districts by the
6 increased costs for health insurance and although the
7 payments provided under this section are computed and
8 distributed outside the block grant model, it is the intent
9 of the legislature to address health insurance costs within
10 the scope of the 2005 model reevaluation to ensure the
11 model remains cost-based in light of these changing
12 conditions.

13

14 (b) Health insurance payments to school districts
15 shall be computed by the department of education as
16 follows:

17

18 (i) Based upon school year 2003-2004 data,
19 determine the statewide average health insurance plan
20 participation for professional, certified and classified
21 school district employees, as computed on a full-time
22 equivalency (FTE) basis, weighted as to the proportion of
23 employee only, split contracts, employee plus spouse or
24 children and family coverage;

1

2 (ii) Multiply the statewide average weighted
3 participation per FTE computed under paragraph (i) of this
4 subsection by the annualized state contribution rate as of
5 January 1, 2005, on behalf of each employee and official
6 enrolled in the state group health insurance plan, for
7 employee only, split contracts, employee plus spouse or
8 children and family coverage;

9

10 (iii) Subtract from the amount computed under
11 paragraph (ii) of this subsection the amount contained
12 within the education resource block grant model for the
13 health insurance component;

14

15 (iv) For each school district, multiply the
16 amount determined under paragraph (iii) of this subsection
17 by the number of school year 2003-2004 district FTE
18 professional, certified and classified staff.

19

20 (c) Payments to school districts computed under
21 subsection (b) of this section shall be made by the
22 department of education from amounts within the foundation
23 program account as appropriated by the legislature for
24 purposes of this section and shall be in addition to the

1 school year 2005-2006 foundation program amount computed
2 for each district under W.S. 21-13-309(p). If there is an
3 insufficient amount within the foundation program account
4 for payments under this section, the department shall make
5 a pro rata reduction in district payments. On April 1,
6 2005, payments shall be distributed by the department in
7 accordance with computations under subsection (b) of this
8 section to districts. It is the intent of the legislature
9 that by distributing these funds at this time, districts
10 will have sufficient time to negotiate health insurance
11 plans with providers for coverage of employees during the
12 2005-2006 school year and to the extent possible, assist
13 district efforts for staff retention and recruitment.

14

15 (d) Payments received by school districts pursuant to
16 this section shall be used only for the expenses associated
17 with district employees health insurance benefits and shall
18 supplement and not supplant the amount generated for
19 districts by the health insurance component contained
20 within the education resource block grant model. Each
21 district receiving a payment under this section shall
22 report payment expenditures to the department of education,
23 in a form and manner specified by the department, comparing
24 district employee health insurance benefits provided during

1 school year 2005-2006 to the insurance benefits provided
2 during the immediately preceding two (2) school years.
3 Upon receipt, the department shall compile district reports
4 filed under this subsection and submit the compilation to
5 the management council, the joint education interim
6 committee and the joint appropriations interim committee.
7 This report shall compare the costs of this program
8 together with the amount of money allocated to health
9 insurance costs in the block grant model to moving the
10 school health insurance program to the state health
11 insurance program.

12

13 (e) Any charter school operating within the district
14 pursuant to W.S. 21-3-301 through 21-3-314 shall be
15 included within the school district's computations under
16 subsection (b) of this section and shall receive insurance
17 benefits provided by the district during school year 2005-
18 2006 through payments received under this section.

19

20 **Section 3.**

21

22 (a) Six million two hundred thousand dollars
23 (\$6,200,000.00) is appropriated from the school foundation
24 program account to the department of education for

1 distributions to school districts for full-day kindergarten
2 programs during school year 2005-2006, as authorized under
3 section 1 of this act.

4

5 (b) Four million five hundred thousand dollars
6 (\$4,500,000.00) is appropriated from the school foundation
7 program account to the department of education to fund the
8 summer school grant program, as continued for school year
9 2005-2006 under section 1 of this act, for the period
10 commencing on the effective date of this act and ending
11 June 30, 2006.

12

13 (c) For the period commencing April 1, 2005, and
14 ending June 30, 2006, thirty-three million three hundred
15 twenty-one thousand four hundred nineteen dollars
16 (\$33,321,419.00) is appropriated from amounts within the
17 school foundation program account for purposes of section 2
18 of this act.

19

20 **Section 4.**

21

22 (a) Except as provided by subsection (b) of this
23 section, this act is effective July 1, 2005.

24

1 (b) Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section,
2 2004 Wyoming Session Laws, chapter 108, section 1001 as
3 amended under section 1 of this act, and section 3(b) and
4 (c) of this act, are effective immediately upon completion
5 of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided
6 by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

7

8

(END)