

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 [SECTION 10. SUMMER SCHOOL GRANT PROGRAM]

8

9 **Section 1001.**

10

11 (a) The summer school grant program is
12 established for the 2004 summer session and the
13 2005 summer session to provide financial
14 assistance to districts for the provision of
15 intervention and remediation instruction to
16 students beyond the required school year
17 specified by law under W.S. 21-4-301 and
18 21-13-307(a)(ii). Assistance made available
19 under the grant program shall supplement district
20 intervention and remediation programs and shall
21 be made available to students requiring
22 additional instruction to master statewide
23 content and performance standards prescribed by
24 the state board of education under W.S.

1 21-2-304(a)(iii) or otherwise seeking credit
2 recovery for promotion to the subsequent grade
3 level. Summer school programs eligible for
4 assistance under this section shall also:

5
6 (c) To receive grant assistance under this
7 section, a district shall apply to the department
8 of education on or before May 1, 2004, for school
9 year 2004-2005, and on or before May 1, 2005, for
10 school year 2005-2006. Application review by the
11 department shall be completed by June 1, ~~2004~~ of
12 each school year. On or before June 1, ~~2004~~ of
13 the appropriate school year, districts shall be
14 notified by the department of any estimated grant
15 amount to be made available to the district
16 during the ~~2004~~ applicable summer school session.
17 Application to the department shall be in a
18 manner and form prescribed by the department and
19 shall include:

20
21 (i) An estimate of the number of
22 students to be enrolled in the summer school
23 intervention and remediation program during the

1 school year for which a grant is requested,
2 broken down by grade level;

3
4 (g) On or before December 1, 2004, and on
5 or before December 1, 2005, the department shall
6 review and report to the joint education interim
7 committee on summer school remediation and
8 intervention programs funded under this section,
9 evaluate program effectiveness and provide
10 recommendations for program improvement and
11 continuation.

12

13 **Section 2.**

14

15 (a) Prior to reevaluation of the education resource
16 block grant model during the 2005 interim period preceding
17 the 2006 budget session of the legislature, as required
18 under W.S. 21-13-309(t), additional funding is provided
19 under this section to assist school districts with the
20 expenses of health insurance coverage for district
21 employees during school year 2005-2006. The legislature
22 recognizes the burden placed on school districts by the
23 increased costs for health insurance and although the
24 payments provided under this section are computed and

1 distributed outside the block grant model, it is the intent
2 of the legislature to address health insurance costs within
3 the scope of the 2005 model reevaluation to ensure the
4 model remains cost-based in light of these changing
5 conditions.

6

7 (b) Health insurance payments to school districts
8 shall be computed by the department of education as
9 follows:

10

11 (i) Based upon school year 2003-2004 data,
12 determine the statewide average health insurance plan
13 participation for professional, certified and classified
14 school district employees, as computed on a full-time
15 equivalency (FTE) basis, weighted as to the proportion of
16 employee only, split contracts, employee plus spouse or
17 children and family coverage;

18

19 (ii) Multiply the statewide average weighted
20 participation per FTE computed under paragraph (i) of this
21 subsection by the state contribution rate as of January 1,
22 2005, on behalf of each employee and official enrolled in
23 the state group health insurance plan, for employee only,

1 split contracts, employee plus spouse or children and
2 family coverage;

3

4 (iii) Subtract from the amount computed under
5 paragraph (ii) of this subsection the amount contained
6 within the education resource block grant model for the
7 health insurance component;

8

9 (iv) For each school district, multiply the
10 amount determined under paragraph (iii) of this subsection
11 by the number of school year 2003-2004 district FTE
12 professional, certified and classified staff.

13

14 (c) Payments to school districts computed under
15 subsection (b) of this section shall be made by the
16 department of education from amounts within the foundation
17 program account as appropriated by the legislature for
18 purposes of this section and shall be in addition to the
19 school year 2005-2006 foundation program amount computed
20 for each district under W.S. 21-13-309(p). If there is an
21 insufficient amount within the foundation program account
22 for payments under this section, the department shall make
23 a pro rata reduction in district payments. On May 1, 2005,
24 payments shall be distributed by the department in

1 accordance with computations under subsection (b) of this
2 section to districts. It is the intent of the legislature
3 that by distributing these funds at this time, districts
4 will have sufficient time to negotiate health insurance
5 plans with providers for coverage of employees during the
6 2005-2006 school year and to the extent possible, assist
7 district efforts for staff retention and recruitment.

8

9 (d) Payments received by school districts pursuant to
10 this section shall be used only for the expenses associated
11 with district employees health insurance benefits and shall
12 supplement and not supplant any existing district operating
13 funds dedicated to employee compensation and benefits.
14 Each district receiving a payment under this section shall
15 report payment expenditures to the department of education,
16 in a form and manner specified by the department,
17 specifically identifying the impact of payments on district
18 health insurance coverage and comparing district employee
19 health insurance benefits provided during school year 2005-
20 2006 to the insurance benefits provided during the
21 immediately preceding two (2) school years. The district
22 shall also report the impact of the payments received under
23 this section on teacher retention and recruitment efforts.
24 Upon receipt, the department shall compile district reports

1 filed under this subsection and submit the compilation to
2 the management council, the joint education interim
3 committee and the joint appropriations interim committee.

4
5 **Section 3.**

6
7 (a) Five million dollars (\$5,000,000.00) is
8 appropriated from the school foundation program account to
9 the department of education for distributions to school
10 districts for full-day kindergarten programs during school
11 year 2005-2006, as authorized under section 1 of this act.

12
13 (b) Four million five hundred thousand dollars
14 (\$4,500,000.00) is appropriated from the school foundation
15 program account to the department of education to fund the
16 summer school grant program, as continued for school year
17 2005-2006 under section 1 of this act, for the period
18 commencing on the effective date of this act and ending
19 June 30, 2006.

20
21 (c) For the period commencing May 1, 2005, and ending
22 June 30, 2006, thirty-three million three hundred twenty-
23 one thousand four hundred nineteen dollars (\$33,321,419.00)

1 is appropriated from amounts within the school foundation
2 program account for purposes of section 2 of this act.

3

4 **Section 4.**

5

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

8

9 (b) Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section,
10 2004 Wyoming Session Laws, chapter 108, section 1001 as
11 amended under section 1 of this act, and section 3(b) and
12 (c) of this act, are effective immediately upon completion
13 of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided
14 by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

15

16 (END)

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