

WORKING DRAFT

HOUSE BILL NO. _____

School finance-alternative schools-2.

Sponsored by: HDRAFT

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to school finance; requiring the state
2 superintendent of public instruction to review at-risk
3 program strategies funded under the block grant model;
4 specifically including alternative schools and imposing a
5 moratorium on new alternative schools recognized under the
6 model during the review period; imposing reporting
7 requirements; providing an appropriation; and providing for
8 an effective date.

9

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

11

12 **Section 1.** W.S. 21-13-309(m) (v) (B) is amended to
13 read:

14

1 **21-13-309. Determination of amount to be included in**
2 **foundation program for each district.**

3

4 (m) In determining the amount to be included in the
5 foundation program for each district, the state
6 superintendent shall:

7

8 (v) Based upon ADM computations and identified
9 school configurations within each district pursuant to
10 paragraph (iv) of this subsection, compute the foundation
11 program amount for each district as prescribed by the
12 education resource block grant model adopted by the Wyoming
13 legislature as defined under W.S. 21-13-103(a)(xiv), as
14 contained within the spreadsheets and accompanying reports
15 referenced under W.S. 21-13-103(a)(xvii) and (xviii) and on
16 file with the secretary of state pursuant to W.S.
17 21-13-103(c). The following criteria shall be used by the
18 state superintendent in the administration of the education
19 resource block grant model:

20

21 (B) Alternative schools qualifying for
22 separate consideration under the education resource block
23 grant model may be established by a school district for
24 offering educational programs to students with educational

1 needs which the district finds are not appropriately met by
2 other schools in the district, excluding charter schools
3 established under W.S. 21-3-301 through 21-3-314.
4 Alternative schools included within a district's
5 configuration of schools identified under paragraph (iv) of
6 this subsection shall for purposes of the education
7 resource block grant model ~~be subject to subdivision (III)~~
8 ~~of this subparagraph and meet either subdivision (I) or~~
9 ~~(II) of this subparagraph:~~

10
11 (I) Be approved as an alternative
12 school by the department of education prior to July 1,
13 2006;

14
15 ~~(II) After July 1, 2006, through~~
16 ~~teachers and accompanying staff within the alternative~~
17 ~~school facility, provide a program in an alternative~~
18 ~~learning environment that complies with criteria~~
19 ~~established by rule and regulation of the department,~~
20 ~~provide the required statewide educational program~~
21 ~~prescribed under W.S. 21-9-101 and 21-9-102 and secure~~
22 ~~state board accreditation under W.S. 21-2-204(a)(ii);~~

23

1 (III) Unless otherwise authorized by
2 the state superintendent, be restricted to not more than
3 one (1) alternative school within any school district.

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5 **Section 2.** W.S. 21-13-309(m) (v) (B) (II) is repealed.

6

7 **Section 3.**

8

9 (a) In continuation of the study assigned under 2006
10 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 37, Section 7(c), and subject
11 to subsection (b) of this section, the state superintendent
12 of public instruction shall through the department of
13 education, review the at-risk resources provided under the
14 Wyoming education resource block grant model and the
15 associated at-risk strategies associated with these
16 resources, and based upon this review and information
17 collected from school districts on at-risk program
18 structure, content and delivery and program effectiveness
19 as measured by program entrance and exit performance
20 indicators, provide recommendations to the joint education
21 interim committee on refining model components supporting
22 at-risk students. The review shall be conducted in
23 coordination with the study on the allocation and use of
24 education resources by schools and school districts

1 undertaken by the joint education interim committee
2 pursuant to 2006 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 37, Section
3 8, and shall to the extent possible, coordinate and share
4 information and findings gathered and assembled under both
5 this section and the allocation and use study effort.

6
7 (b) Refinement recommendations under subsection (a)
8 of this section shall include the provision of alternative
9 schools as one (1) component of a total district at-risk
10 program strategy subject to approval by the state
11 superintendent, compliance with alternative learning
12 environment program components specified within the 2005
13 cost of education study on the recalibration of the
14 education resource block grant model and subject to
15 additional criteria pertaining to student participation and
16 program components as recommended by the state
17 superintendent to ensure proper provision as a component of
18 overall district at-risk program strategy. The study shall
19 also include recommendations for funding alternative
20 schools within the education resource block grant model
21 which target funds in accordance with established program
22 criteria.

23

1 (c) On or before October 1, 2007, the state
2 superintendent shall report recommendations under this
3 section to the joint education interim committee.
4 Recommendations shall be aligned to findings and
5 recommendations under the study on the allocation and use
6 of education resources by schools and school districts
7 conducted pursuant to 2006 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter
8 37, Section 8.

9
10 (d) For the period commencing on the effective date
11 of this act and extending through June 30, 2008, two
12 hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000.00) is appropriated from
13 the general fund to the state superintendent of public
14 instruction to cover expenses associated with the conduct
15 of the study required under this section, including
16 acquisition of necessary consulting expertise.

17
18 **Section 4.** This act is effective immediately upon
19 completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law
20 as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming
21 Constitution.

22

23

(END)