

Substitute for HOUSE BILL No. 2592

By Committee on Education

2-17

10 AN ACT concerning school districts; relating to the transfer of territory
11 between districts; requiring mediation.

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13 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

14 Section 1. (a) The state board, in accordance with this section, shall
15 implement procedures to allow districts to discuss any proposal for the
16 transfer of territory pursuant to K.S.A. 72-7101 *et seq.*, and amendments
17 thereto, through a mediation process.

18 (b) The procedures implemented by the state board shall ensure that
19 any mediation is conducted by a qualified and impartial mediator who is
20 trained in effective mediation techniques. The state board shall maintain
21 a list of individuals who are qualified mediators.

22 (c) Any district proposing a transfer of territory first shall seek an
23 agreement to transfer the territory. If an agreement is not obtained, the
24 proposal for the transfer shall be abandoned or the district seeking the
25 transfer shall file a written request with the state board for the appoint-
26 ment of a mediator.

27 (d) When a request to appoint a mediator is received, the state board
28 shall appoint a mediator and shall notify the school districts of the ap-
29 pointment of the mediator.

30 (e) Each session in the mediation process shall be scheduled in a
31 timely manner and shall be held in a location that is convenient to the
32 districts. Each district involved in a proposed transfer of territory shall be
33 required to participate in at least one mediation session. The district re-
34 questing the transfer shall bear the cost of the mediation process.

35 (f) If mediation fails to result in an agreement between the districts,
36 a petition for transfer of territory may be submitted to the state board
37 pursuant to K.S.A. 72-7108, and amendments thereto.

38 Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
39 publication in the ~~statute book~~ **Kansas register**.