HOUSE BILL No. 2276

By Committee on Education

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AN ACT concerning school districts; relating to school finance; authorizing a levy for the budget equity fund.

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

Section 1. (a) As used in this section, "school district" or "district" means any district that has adopted a local option budget in an amount equal to the state prescribed percentage and which budgeted an amount per pupil in the preceding school year, as determined under provision (1) of subsection (a) of K.S.A. 72-6444, and amendments thereto, that was less than the average amount per pupil of general fund budgets and local option budgets for the school district's enrollment category as computed by the state board under whichever of the provisions (4), (5) and (6) of subsection (a) of K.S.A. 72-6444, and amendments thereto, is applicable to the district's enrollment category.

- (b) Each school year, the board of education of a school district may levy an ad valorem tax on the taxable tangible property of the district for the purpose of providing revenue for the budget equity fund of the district and for the purpose of paying a portion of the principal and interest on bonds issued by cities under authority of K.S.A. 12-1774, and amendments thereto, for the financing of redevelopment projects upon property located within the district. The revenue derived from the levy authorized by this subsection shall not exceed an amount equal to that amount necessary to allow the district to budget the average amount per pupil for the preceding school year of general fund budgets and the local option budgets of districts in the same enrollment category under K.S.A. 72-6444, and amendments thereto.
- (c) The proceeds from the tax levied by a district under authority of this section, except the proceeds of such tax levied for the purpose of paying a portion of the principal and interest on bonds issued by cities under authority of K.S.A. 12-1774, and amendments thereto, for the financing of redevelopment projects upon property located within the district, shall be deposited in the budget equity fund of the district.
- (d) (1) There is hereby created in every school district the budget equity fund. The fund shall consist of amounts deposited therein or credited thereto according to law.

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- (2) Subject to the limitation imposed under provision (3), amounts in the budget equity fund may be expended for any purpose for which expenditures from the general fund are authorized or may be transferred to the general fund of the district or to any program weighted fund or categorical fund of the district.
- (3) Amounts in the budget equity fund may not be expended nor transferred to the general fund of the district for the purpose of making payments under any lease-purchase agreement involving the acquisition of land or buildings which is entered into pursuant to the provisions of K.S.A. 72-8225, and amendments thereto.
- (4) Any balance remaining in the budget equity fund at the end of the budget year shall be carried forward into that fund for succeeding budget years. Such fund shall not be subject to the provisions of K.S.A. 79-2925 through 79-2937, and amendments thereto. In preparing the budget of such school district, the amounts credited to and the amount on hand in the budget equity fund, and the amount expended therefrom shall be included in the annual budget for the information of the residents of the school district. Interest earned on the investment of moneys in any such fund shall be credited to that fund.
- Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.