

SENATE BILL No. 669

AN ACT concerning school districts; relating to virtual schools; relating to school finance; amending K.S.A. 2007 Supp. 72-6407 and 72-8187 and repealing the existing sections.

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

New Section 1. Sections 1 through 6, and amendments thereto, shall be known and may be cited as the virtual school act.

New Sec. 2. As used in the virtual school act:

(a) "Virtual school" means any school or educational program that: (1) Is offered for credit; (2) uses distance-learning technologies which predominately use internet-based methods to deliver instruction; (3) involves instruction that occurs asynchronously with the teacher and pupil in separate locations; (4) requires the pupil to make academic progress toward the next grade level and matriculation from kindergarten through high school graduation; (5) requires the pupil to demonstrate competence in subject matter for each class or subject in which the pupil is enrolled as part of the virtual school; and (6) requires age-appropriate pupils to complete state assessment tests.

(b) "School district" means any school district which offers a virtual school.

(c) Except as provided by the virtual school act, words and phrases shall have the meanings ascribed thereto in the school district finance and quality performance act.

New Sec. 3. Virtual schools shall be under the general supervision of the state board. The state board may adopt any rules and regulations relating to virtual schools which the state board deems necessary to administer and enforce the virtual school act.

New Sec. 4. (a) In order to provide for the proper delivery of instruction through distance-learning technologies, school districts shall provide adequate training to teachers who teach in virtual schools. Each year, school districts shall submit a report relating to training programs provided by the district to teachers who teach in virtual schools. Such reports shall be submitted in the manner and form required by the state board.

New Sec. 5. (a) In order to be included in the full-time equivalent enrollment of a virtual school, a pupil shall be in attendance at the virtual school on (1) a single school day on or before September 19 of each school year and (2) on a single school day on or after September 20, but before October 4 of each school year.

(b) A school district which offers a virtual school shall determine the full-time equivalent enrollment of each pupil enrolled in the virtual school on September 20 of each school year as follows:

(1) Determine the number of hours the pupil was in attendance on a single school day on or before September 19 of each school year;

(2) determine the number of hours the pupil was in attendance on a single school day on or after September 20, but before October 4 of each school year;

(3) add the numbers obtained under paragraphs (1) and (2);

(4) divide the sum obtained under paragraph (3) by 12. The quotient is the full-time equivalent enrollment of the pupil.

(c) The school days on which a district determines the full-time equivalent enrollment of a pupil under paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (b) shall be the school days on which the pupil has the highest number of hours of attendance at the virtual school. No more than six hours of attendance may be counted in a single school day. Attendance may be shown by a pupil's on-line activity or entries in the pupil's virtual school journal or log of activities.

(d) (1) Subject to the availability of appropriations for virtual school state aid and within the limits of any such appropriations, each school year a school district which offers a virtual school shall be entitled to virtual school state aid.

(2) The state board of education shall determine the amount of virtual school state aid a school district is entitled to receive as follows:

(A) Multiply the full-time equivalent enrollment of the virtual school by an amount equal to 105% of the amount of base state aid per pupil;

(B) multiply the full-time equivalent enrollment of nonproficient at-risk pupils enrolled in an approved at-risk program offered by the virtual school, if any, by an amount equal to 25% of the amount of base state aid per pupil;

(C) add any amount determined under section 6, and amendments thereto; and

(D) add the amounts obtained under paragraphs (A) through (C). The sum is the amount of the virtual school state aid to which the school district is entitled.

(3) There is hereby established in every school district a fund which shall be called the virtual school fund, which fund shall consist of all moneys deposited therein or transferred thereto according to law. Moneys received as virtual school state aid shall be deposited in the general fund of the school district and transferred to the virtual school fund of the district. The expenses of a district directly attributable to virtual schools offered by a school district shall be paid from the virtual school fund. The cost of an advance placement course provided to a pupil described in subsection (d)(2)(D) shall be paid by the virtual school.

Any balance remaining in the virtual school fund at the end of the budget year shall be carried forward into the virtual school 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 virtual school 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.

(e) For the purposes of this section, a pupil enrolled in a virtual school who is not a resident of the state of Kansas shall not be counted in the full-time equivalent enrollment of the virtual school.

New Sec. 6. (a) As used in this section:

(1) “Pupil” means a pupil who is a resident of and enrolled, on a full-time basis, in a school district.

(2) “School district” means a school district which does not offer advanced placement courses and which is either more than 200 square miles in area or has an enrollment of at least 260 pupils and does not offer advance placement courses.

(b) If a pupil is enrolled in at least one advanced placement course provided by a virtual school, the school district offering the virtual school shall be paid an amount equal to 8% of the amount of base state aid per pupil for such pupil as additional virtual school state aid. Such state aid shall be paid in each semester in which a pupil is enrolled in at least one advanced placement course provided by a virtual school.

New Sec. 7. (a) As used in this section:

(1) Words and phrases used in this section shall have the meanings ascribed thereto by K.S.A. 72-6407, and amendments thereto, except as provided by this subsection.

(2) “School district” means U.S.D. No. 251, north Lyon county; U.S.D. No. 252, southern Lyon county; U.S.D. No. 253, Emporia; and U.S.D. No. 284, Chase county.

(3) “Base school year” means the school year 2007-2008.

(b) When computing the general fund budget of the school district for school year 2008-2009, the adjusted enrollment of the school district shall be the greater of:

(1) The adjusted enrollment of the district as defined by K.S.A. 72-6407, and amendments thereto; or

(2) ninety-eight percent of the adjusted enrollment of the school district in the base school year.

New Sec. 8. (a) As used in this section:

(1) Words and phrases used in this section shall have the meanings ascribed thereto by K.S.A. 72-6407, and amendments thereto, except as provided by paragraphs (2), (3) and (4).

(2) “School district” means U.S.D. No. 101, Erie, U.S.D. No. 257, Iola, U.S.D. No. 367, Osawatimie, U.S.D. No. 422, Greensburg, U.S.D. No. 445, Coffeyville, U.S.D. No. 446, Independence, U.S.D. No. 461, Neodesha and U.S.D. No. 484, Fredonia.

(3) “Disaster” means the occurrence of widespread or severe damage, injury or loss of life or property resulting from any natural or man-made cause including, but not limited to, fire, flood, earthquake, tornado, wind, storm, drought, epidemics, air contamination, blight, infestation or explosion and as a result of such disaster.

(4) “Base school year” means school year 2006-2007.

(b) The provisions of this section shall apply to any school district in which: (1) A disaster has occurred and which is located in an area in which the governor has issued a proclamation declaring a state of disaster emergency pursuant to K.S.A. 48-924, and amendments thereto, and the president of the United States, pursuant to the federal Robert T. Stafford disaster relief and emergency assistance act and the federal disaster relief and emergency assistance amendments of 1988, has declared a major disaster to exist; and (2) as a result of the destruction or damage to housing caused by such disaster the enrollment of the district declined by at least 25 pupils or by a number equal to 2% or more of the district’s enrollment.

(c) When computing the general fund budget of a school district for the second, third and fourth school years following the base school year, the adjusted enrollment of the school district shall be the greater of:

(1) The adjusted enrollment of the district as defined by subsection (e) of K.S.A. 72-6407, and amendments thereto; or

(2) the adjusted enrollment of the school district in the base school year less any enrollment attributable to the special education weighting, school facilities weighting, ancillary school facilities weighting, cost of living weighting and preschool-aged at-risk pupils in the base school year; plus any enrollment attributable to the special education weighting, school facilities weighting, ancillary school facilities weighting, cost of living weighting and preschool-aged at-risk pupils in the current school year.

(d) Districts desiring to determine adjusted enrollment under this section shall submit any documentation or information required by the state board.

Sec. 9. K.S.A. 2007 Supp. 72-6407 is hereby amended to read as follows: 72-6407. (a) (1) “Pupil” means any person who is regularly enrolled in a district and attending kindergarten or any of the grades one through 12 maintained by the district or who is regularly enrolled in a district and attending kindergarten or any of the grades one through 12 in another district in accordance with an agreement entered into under authority of K.S.A. 72-8233, and amendments thereto, or who is regularly enrolled in a district and attending special education services provided for preschool-aged exceptional children by the district.

(2) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (3) of this subsection, a pupil in attendance full time shall be counted as one pupil. A pupil in attendance part time shall be counted as that proportion of one pupil (to the nearest $\frac{1}{10}$) that the pupil’s attendance bears to full-time attendance. A pupil attending kindergarten shall be counted as $\frac{1}{2}$ pupil. A pupil enrolled in and attending an institution of postsecondary education which is authorized under the laws of this state to award academic degrees shall be counted as one pupil if the pupil’s postsecondary education enrollment and attendance together with the pupil’s attendance in either of the grades 11 or 12 is at least $\frac{5}{6}$ time, otherwise the pupil shall be counted as that proportion of one pupil (to the nearest $\frac{1}{10}$) that the total time of the pupil’s postsecondary education attendance and attendance in grade 11 or 12, as applicable, bears to full-time attendance. A pupil enrolled in and attending an area vocational school, area vocational-technical school or approved vocational education program shall be counted as one pupil if the pupil’s vocational education enrollment and attendance together with the pupil’s attendance in any of grades nine through 12 is at least $\frac{5}{6}$ time, otherwise the pupil shall be counted as that proportion of one pupil (to the nearest $\frac{1}{10}$) that the total time of the pupil’s vocational education attendance and attendance in any of grades nine through 12 bears to full-time attendance. *A pupil enrolled in a district and attending a non-virtual school and also attending a virtual school shall be counted as that proportion of one pupil (to the nearest $\frac{1}{10}$) that the pupil’s attendance at the non-virtual school bears to full-time attendance. Except as provided by this section for preschool-aged exceptional children and virtual school pupils, a pupil enrolled in a district and attending special education and related services, ~~except special education and related services for preschool-aged exceptional children,~~ provided for by the district shall be counted as one pupil. A pupil enrolled in a district and attending special education and related services provided for by the district and also attending a virtual school shall be counted as that proportion of one pupil (to the nearest $\frac{1}{10}$) that the pupil’s attendance at the non-virtual school*

bears to full-time attendance. A pupil enrolled in a district and attending special education and related services for preschool-aged exceptional children provided for by the district shall be counted as ½ pupil. A preschool-aged at-risk pupil enrolled in a district and receiving services under an approved at-risk pupil assistance plan maintained by the district shall be counted as ½ pupil. A pupil in the custody of the secretary of social and rehabilitation services or in the custody of the commissioner of juvenile justice and enrolled in unified school district No. 259, Sedgwick county, Kansas, but housed, maintained, and receiving educational services at the Judge James V. Riddell Boys Ranch, shall be counted as two pupils.

(3) A pupil residing at the Flint Hills job corps center shall not be counted. A pupil confined in and receiving educational services provided for by a district at a juvenile detention facility shall not be counted. A pupil enrolled in a district but housed, maintained, and receiving educational services at a state institution or a *psychiatric residential treatment facility* shall not be counted. ~~A pupil enrolled in a virtual school in a district but who is not a resident of the state of Kansas shall not be counted.~~

(b) “Preschool-aged exceptional children” means exceptional children, except gifted children, who have attained the age of three years but are under the age of eligibility for attendance at kindergarten.

(c) “At-risk pupils” means pupils who are eligible for free meals under the national school lunch act and who are enrolled in a district which maintains an approved at-risk pupil assistance plan.

(d) “Preschool-aged at-risk pupil” means an at-risk pupil who has attained the age of four years, is under the age of eligibility for attendance at kindergarten, and has been selected by the state board in accordance with guidelines consonant with guidelines governing the selection of pupils for participation in head start programs.

(e) “Enrollment” means: (1) (A) Subject to the provisions of paragraph (1)(B), for districts scheduling the school days or school hours of the school term on a trimestral or quarterly basis, the number of pupils regularly enrolled in the district on September 20 plus the number of pupils regularly enrolled in the district on February 20 less the number of pupils regularly enrolled on February 20 who were counted in the enrollment of the district on September 20; and for districts not specified in this paragraph (1), the number of pupils regularly enrolled in the district on September 20; (B) a pupil who is a foreign exchange student shall not be counted unless such student is regularly enrolled in the district on September 20 and attending kindergarten or any of the grades one through 12 maintained by the district for at least one semester or two quarters or the equivalent thereof;

(2) if enrollment in a district in any school year has decreased from enrollment in the preceding school year, enrollment of the district in the current school year means whichever is the greater of (A) enrollment in the preceding school year minus enrollment in such school year of preschool-aged at-risk pupils, if any such pupils were enrolled, plus enrollment in the current school year of preschool-aged at-risk pupils, if any such pupils are enrolled, or (B) the sum of enrollment in the current school year of preschool-aged at-risk pupils, if any such pupils are enrolled and the average (mean) of the sum of (i) enrollment of the district in the current school year minus enrollment in such school year of preschool-aged at-risk pupils, if any such pupils are enrolled and (ii) enrollment in the preceding school year minus enrollment in such school year of preschool-aged at-risk pupils, if any such pupils were enrolled and (iii) enrollment in the school year next preceding the preceding school year minus enrollment in such school year of preschool-aged at-risk pupils, if any such pupils were enrolled; or

(3) the number of pupils as determined under K.S.A. 72-6447 or K.S.A. 2007 Supp. 72-6448, and amendments thereto.

(f) “Adjusted enrollment” means ~~enrollment~~: (1) *Enrollment* adjusted by adding at-risk pupil weighting, program weighting, low enrollment weighting, if any, density at-risk weighting, if any, nonproficient pupil weighting, if any, high enrollment weighting, if any, declining enrollment weighting, if any, school facilities weighting, if any, ancillary school facilities weighting, if any, cost of living weighting, if any, special education and related services weighting, and transportation weighting to enroll-

ment; or (2) *adjusted enrollment as determined under section 7 or 8, and amendments thereto.*

(g) “At-risk pupil weighting” means an addend component assigned to enrollment of districts on the basis of enrollment of at-risk pupils.

(h) “Program weighting” means an addend component assigned to enrollment of districts on the basis of pupil attendance in educational programs which differ in cost from regular educational programs.

(i) “Low enrollment weighting” means an addend component assigned to enrollment of districts pursuant to K.S.A. 72-6412, and amendments thereto, on the basis of costs attributable to maintenance of educational programs by such districts in comparison with costs attributable to maintenance of educational programs by districts having to which high enrollment weighting is assigned pursuant to K.S.A. 2007 Supp. 72-6442b, and amendments thereto.

(j) “School facilities weighting” means an addend component assigned to enrollment of districts on the basis of costs attributable to commencing operation of new school facilities.

(k) “Transportation weighting” means an addend component assigned to enrollment of districts on the basis of costs attributable to the provision or furnishing of transportation.

(l) “Cost of living weighting” means an addend component assigned to enrollment of districts to which the provisions of K.S.A. 2007 Supp. 72-6449, and amendments thereto, apply on the basis of costs attributable to the cost of living in the district.

(m) “Ancillary school facilities weighting” means an addend component assigned to enrollment of districts to which the provisions of K.S.A. 72-6441, and amendments thereto, apply on the basis of costs attributable to commencing operation of new school facilities. Ancillary school facilities weighting may be assigned to enrollment of a district only if the district has levied a tax under authority of K.S.A. 72-6441, and amendments thereto, and remitted the proceeds from such tax to the state treasurer. Ancillary school facilities weighting is in addition to assignment of school facilities weighting to enrollment of any district eligible for such weighting.

(n) “Juvenile detention facility” has the meaning ascribed thereto by 72-8187, and amendments thereto.

(o) “Special education and related services weighting” means an addend component assigned to enrollment of districts on the basis of costs attributable to provision of special education and related services for pupils determined to be exceptional children.

~~(p) “Virtual school” means any kindergarten or grades one through 12 course offered for credit that uses distance-learning technologies which predominantly use internet-based methods to deliver instruction and for which the course content is available on an “anytime, anyplace” basis, but the instruction occurs asynchronously with the teacher and pupil in separate locations, not necessarily located within a local education agency.~~

(p) “Virtual school” means any school or educational program that: (A) Is offered for credit; (B) uses distance-learning technologies which predominately use internet-based methods to deliver instruction; (C) involves instruction that occurs asynchronously with the teacher and pupil in separate locations; (D) requires the pupil to make academic progress toward the next grade level and matriculation from kindergarten through high school graduation; (E) requires the pupil to demonstrate competence in subject matter for each class or subject in which the pupil is enrolled as part of the virtual school; and (F) requires age-appropriate pupils to complete state assessment tests.

(q) “Declining enrollment weighting” means an addend component assigned to enrollment of districts to which the provisions of K.S.A. 2007 Supp. 72-6451, and amendments thereto, apply on the basis of reduced revenues attributable to the declining enrollment of the district.

(r) “High enrollment weighting” means an addend component assigned to enrollment of districts pursuant to K.S.A. 2007 Supp. 72-6442b, and amendments thereto, on the basis of costs attributable to maintenance of educational programs by such districts as a correlate to low enrollment weighting assigned to enrollment of districts pursuant to K.S.A. 72-6412, and amendments thereto.

(s) “High density at-risk pupil weighting” means an addend compo-

ment assigned to enrollment of districts to which the provisions of K.S.A. 2007 Supp. 72-6455, and amendments thereto, apply.

(t) “Nonproficient pupil” means a pupil who is not eligible for free meals under the national school lunch act and who has scored less than proficient on the mathematics or reading state assessment during the preceding school year and who is enrolled in a district which maintains an approved proficiency assistance plan.

(u) “Nonproficient pupil weighting” means an addend component assigned to enrollment of districts on the basis of enrollment of non-proficient pupils pursuant to K.S.A. 2007 Supp. 72-6454, and amendments thereto.

(v) “Psychiatric residential treatment facility” has the meaning ascribed thereto by K.S.A. 72-8187, and amendments thereto.

Sec. 10. K.S.A. 2007 Supp. 72-8187 is hereby amended to read as follows: 72-8187. (a) In each school year, to the extent that appropriations are available, each school district which has provided educational services for pupils residing at the Flint Hills job corps center, for pupils housed at a psychiatric residential treatment facility or for pupils confined in a juvenile detention facility is eligible to receive a grant of state moneys in an amount to be determined by the state board of education.

(b) In order to be eligible for a grant of state moneys provided for by this section, each school district which has provided educational services for pupils residing at the Flint Hills job corps center, for pupils housed at a psychiatric residential treatment facility or for pupils confined in a juvenile detention facility shall submit to the state board of education an application for a grant and shall certify the amount expended, and not reimbursed or otherwise financed, in the school year for the services provided. The application and certification shall be prepared in such form and manner as the state board shall require and shall be submitted at a time to be determined and specified by the state board. Approval by the state board of applications for grants of state moneys is prerequisite to the award of grants.

(c) Each school district which is awarded a grant under this section shall make such periodic and special reports of statistical and financial information to the state board as it may request.

(d) All moneys received by a school district under authority of this section shall be deposited in the general fund of the school district and shall be considered reimbursement of the district for the purpose of the school district finance and quality performance act.

(e) The state board of education shall approve applications of school districts for grants, determine the amount of grants and be responsible for payment of grants to school districts. In determining the amount of a grant which a school district is eligible to receive, the state board shall compute the amount of state financial aid the district would have received on the basis of enrollment of pupils residing at the Flint Hills job corps center, housed at a psychiatric residential treatment facility or confined in a juvenile detention facility if such pupils had been counted as two pupils under the school district finance and quality performance act and compare such computed amount to the amount certified by the district under subsection (b). The amount of the grant the district is eligible to receive shall be an amount equal to the lesser of the amount computed under this subsection or the amount certified under subsection (b). If the amount of appropriations for the payment of grants under this section is insufficient to pay in full the amount each school district is determined to be eligible to receive for the school year, the state board shall prorate the amount appropriated among all school districts which are eligible to receive grants of state moneys in proportion to the amount each school district is determined to be eligible to receive.

(f) On or before July 1 of each year, the secretary of social and rehabilitation services shall submit to the Kansas department of education a list of facilities which have been certified and licensed as psychiatric residential treatment facilities.

(g) As used in this section:

(1) “Enrollment” means the number of pupils who are: (A) Residing at the Flint Hills job corps center ~~or who are~~, confined in a juvenile detention facility ~~and~~ *or residing at a psychiatric residential treatment facility*; and (B) for whom a school district is providing educational serv-

ices on September 20, on November 20, or on April 20 of a school year, whichever is the greatest number of pupils;

(2) “juvenile detention facility” means any public or private facility which is used for the lawful custody of accused or adjudicated juvenile offenders and which shall not be a jail; and

(3) “psychiatric residential treatment facility” means a facility which provides psychiatric services to individuals under the age of 21 and which conforms with the regulations of the centers for medicare/medicaid services, is licensed by the Kansas department of health and environment and is certified by the Kansas department of social and rehabilitation services pursuant to subsection (f).

Sec. 11. K.S.A. 2007 Supp. 72-6407 and 72-8187 are hereby repealed.

Sec. 12. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.

I hereby certify that the above BILL originated in the SENATE, and passed that body

SENATE adopted
Conference Committee Report _____

President of the Senate.

Secretary of the Senate.

Passed the HOUSE
as amended _____

HOUSE adopted
Conference Committee Report _____

Speaker of the House.

Chief Clerk of the House.

APPROVED _____

Governor.