

FEB 20 2001  
APPROPRIATIONS

HOUSE FILE 322  
BY SCHERRMAN

(COMPANION TO SF 154  
BY SOUKUP)

Passed House, Date \_\_\_\_\_ Passed Senate, Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_  
Approved \_\_\_\_\_

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act making a standing appropriation to the school budget  
2 review committee for transportation assistance aid to certain  
3 school districts.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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HF 322

1 Section 1. Section 257.31, subsection 17, Code 2001, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 17. a. If a district's average transportation costs per  
4 pupil exceed the state average transportation costs per pupil  
5 determined under paragraph "c" by one hundred fifty percent,  
6 the committee may grant transportation assistance aid to the  
7 district pursuant to rules adopted by the committee. The  
8 committee shall grant such assistance to an eligible district  
9 in an amount up to, but not exceeding, fifty cents of  
10 transportation assistance for each dollar by which the  
11 district's average transportation costs per pupil exceed the  
12 state average transportation costs per pupil determined under  
13 paragraph "c". Such aid shall be miscellaneous income and  
14 shall not be included in district cost.

15 b. To be eligible for transportation assistance aid, a  
16 school district shall annually certify its actual cost for all  
17 children transported in all school buses not later than July  
18 31 after each school year on forms prescribed by the  
19 committee. A school district in which a local option sales  
20 tax for school infrastructure purposes has been imposed is not  
21 eligible for transportation assistance aid under this  
22 subsection. A school district that is partially located in a  
23 county in which a local option sales tax for school  
24 infrastructure purposes has been imposed is eligible for  
25 transportation assistance aid under this subsection only to  
26 the extent the district's average transportation costs per  
27 pupil residing in the county in which such tax has been  
28 imposed exceeds the state average transportation costs per  
29 pupil determined under paragraph "c" by one hundred fifty  
30 percent.

31 c. A district's average transportation costs per pupil  
32 shall be determined by dividing the district's actual cost for  
33 all children transported in all school buses for a school year  
34 pursuant to section 285.1, subsection 12, less the amount  
35 received for transporting nonpublic school pupils under

1 section 285.1, by the district's actual enrollment for the  
2 school year excluding the shared-time enrollment for the  
3 school year as defined in section 257.6. The state average  
4 transportation costs per pupil shall be determined by dividing  
5 the total actual costs for all children transported in all  
6 districts for a school year, by the total of all districts'  
7 actual enrollments for the school year.

8 d. There is appropriated from the general fund of the  
9 state to the committee, for each fiscal year, the sum of four  
10 million dollars for transportation assistance aid to school  
11 districts as provided in this subsection. Funds transferred  
12 to the committee in accordance with section 321.34, subsection  
13 22, are also appropriated to the committee and may be expended  
14 for the purposes of ~~the-committee,-as-described-in-this~~  
15 section this subsection. ~~However,-highest-priority-shall-be~~  
16 ~~given-to-districts-that-meet-the-conditions-described-in-this~~  
17 ~~subsection.~~ Notwithstanding any other provision of the Code,  
18 unencumbered or unobligated funds appropriated to the  
19 committee pursuant to this paragraph or transferred to the  
20 committee pursuant to section 321.34, subsection 22, remaining  
21 on June 30 of the fiscal year for which the funds were  
22 appropriated or transferred, shall not revert but shall be  
23 available for expenditure for the purposes of this subsection  
24 in subsequent fiscal years.

25 e. The committee shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A  
26 for granting transportation assistance aid and for otherwise  
27 administering this subsection.

28 EXPLANATION

29 This bill appropriates \$4 million each year beginning July  
30 1, 2001, to the school budget review committee to pay  
31 transportation assistance aid to school districts which have  
32 average transportation costs per pupil that exceed the state  
33 average transportation costs per pupil by 150 percent. The  
34 committee is to grant such assistance to eligible districts in  
35 an amount up to 50 cents of assistance for each dollar by

1 which the district's average transportation costs per pupil  
2 exceed the state average transportation costs per pupil. A  
3 school district in which a local option sales tax for school  
4 infrastructure purposes has been imposed is not eligible for  
5 the assistance. A school district partially located in a  
6 county that has imposed such tax is eligible for assistance  
7 only to the extent the average transportation costs for pupils  
8 in that county exceeds the state average transportation costs  
9 per pupil by 150 percent. Rules relating to granting such aid  
10 are to be adopted by the committee pursuant to Code chapter  
11 17A. Currently, the school budget review committee receives  
12 funds for the transportation assistance aid from fees for  
13 special motor vehicle registration plates with education  
14 emblems pursuant to Code section 321.34.

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