

FILED FEB 12 '01

SENATE FILE
BY SOUKUP

154

Passed Senate, Date _____ Passed House, 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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SF 154
EDUCATION

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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