

**SENATE BILL REPORT**

**SB 5956**

**AS OF FEBRUARY 4, 1992**

**Brief Description:** Providing for school support in budget.

**SPONSORS:** Senators Thorsness, Bailey, Skratek, Oke, Pelz, Murray, A. Smith, Johnson, Anderson, Patterson, Sellar, Metcalf, Hayner, Craswell, L. Smith, Nelson, Bauer, Conner, Sutherland and Gaspard

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION**

**Staff:** Mich'l Prentice Needham (786-7439)

**Hearing Dates:** February 4, 1992

**BACKGROUND:**

Under the State Constitution, the paramount duty of the state is to make ample provision for the education of all children. The Legislature is responsible for providing a general and uniform system of public schools that provides educational opportunities for all children.

The 1991-93 biennial appropriation for K-12 education was 45.79 percent of the state budget. Some argue that the state appropriation level is insufficient to fully fund the basic education needs of all children.

**SUMMARY:**

Beginning in fiscal year 1992-93, and each fiscal year thereafter, the percentage of the general fund-state operating budget for K-12 education is increased by a minimum of 1 percent until the percentage of the budget for K-12 education is at or above 50 percent.

Once the percentage of the general fund-state budget is at or above 50 percent, the level for K-12 education shall not fall below 50 percent.

**Appropriation:** none

**Revenue:** none

**Fiscal Note:** requested January 31, 1992