S-1183.1

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**SENATE BILL 5859**

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**State of Washington 64th Legislature 2015 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Pedersen, Litzow, Fain, Rivers, Frockt, Jayapal, Kohl-Welles, Rolfes, Darneille, Mullet, Hasegawa, Keiser, Billig, Cleveland, Hobbs, Chase, Nelson, Warnick, King, Habib, Fraser, Miloscia, McAuliffe, Hargrove, Conway, Hill, Becker, Braun, Ranker, O'Ban, Liias, Bailey, Hewitt, Parlette, and Hatfield

AN ACT Relating to the school construction assistance program; amending RCW 28A.525.166; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

**Sec.**  RCW 28A.525.166 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 18 s 514 are each amended to read as follows:

Allocations to school districts of state funds provided by RCW 28A.525.162 through 28A.525.180 shall be made by the superintendent of public instruction and the amount of state funding assistance to a school district in financing a school plant project shall be determined in the following manner:

(1) The boards of directors of the districts shall determine the total cost of the proposed project, which cost may include the cost of acquiring and preparing the site, the cost of constructing the building or of acquiring a building and preparing the same for school use, the cost of necessary equipment, taxes chargeable to the project, necessary architects' fees, and a reasonable amount for contingencies and for other necessary incidental expenses: PROVIDED, That the total cost of the project shall be subject to review and approval by the superintendent.

(2) The state funding assistance percentage for a school district shall be computed by the following formula:

The ratio of the school district's adjusted valuation per pupil divided by the ratio of the total state adjusted valuation per pupil shall be subtracted from three, and then the result of the foregoing shall be divided by three plus (the ratio of the school district's adjusted valuation per pupil divided by the ratio of the total state adjusted valuation per pupil).

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | District adjusted | Total state |  |  |
|  |  | 3-valuation | ÷ | adjusted valuation |  |
| Computed |  | per pupil |  | per pupil |  | State |
| State | = |   | = - % | Funding |
| Ratio |  | District adjusted | Total state |  | Assistance |
|  |  | 3+valuation | ÷ | adjusted valuation |  |
|  |  | per pupil |  | per pupil |  |  |

PROVIDED, That in the event the state funding assistance percentage to any school district based on the above formula is less than ((~~twenty~~))thirty percent and such school district is otherwise eligible for state funding assistance under RCW 28A.525.162 through 28A.525.180, the superintendent may establish for such district a state funding assistance percentage not in excess of ((~~twenty~~))thirty percent of the approved cost of the project, if the superintendent finds that such additional assistance is necessary to provide minimum facilities for housing the pupils of the district.

(3) In addition to the computed state funding assistance percentage developed in subsection (2) of this section, a school district shall be entitled to additional percentage points determined by the average percentage of growth for the past three years. One percent shall be added to the computed state funding assistance percentage for each percent of growth, with a maximum of twenty percent.

(4) In computing the state funding assistance percentage in subsection (2) of this section and adjusting the percentage under subsection (3) of this section, students residing outside the school district who are enrolled in alternative learning experience courses under RCW 28A.232.010 shall be excluded from the count of total pupils. In lieu of the exclusion in this subsection, a district may submit an alternative calculation for excluding students enrolled in alternative learning experience courses. The alternative calculation must show the student headcount use of district classroom facilities on a regular basis for a reasonable duration by out-of-district alternative learning experience students subtracted by the headcount of in-district alternative learning experience students not using district classroom facilities on a regular basis for a reasonable duration. The alternative calculation must be submitted in a form approved by the office of the superintendent of public instruction. The office of the superintendent of public instruction must develop rules to define "regular basis" and "reasonable duration."

(5) The approved cost of the project determined in the manner prescribed in this section multiplied by the state funding assistance percentage derived as provided for in this section shall be the amount of state funding assistance to the district for the financing of the project: PROVIDED, That need therefor has been established to the satisfaction of the superintendent: PROVIDED, FURTHER, That additional state funding assistance may be allowed if it is found by the superintendent, considering policy recommendations from the school facilities citizen advisory panel that such assistance is necessary in order to meet (a) a school housing emergency resulting from the destruction of a school building by fire, the condemnation of a school building by properly constituted authorities, a sudden excessive and clearly foreseeable future increase in school population, or other conditions similarly emergent in nature; or (b) a special school housing burden resulting from projects of statewide significance or imposed by virtue of the admission of nonresident students into educational programs established, maintained and operated in conformity with the requirements of law; or (c) a deficiency in the capital funds of the district resulting from financing, subsequent to April 1, 1969, and without benefit of the state funding assistance provided by prior state assistance programs, the construction of a needed school building project or projects approved in conformity with the requirements of such programs, after having first applied for and been denied state funding assistance because of the inadequacy of state funds available for the purpose, or (d) a condition created by the fact that an excessive number of students live in state owned housing, or (e) a need for the construction of a school building to provide for improved school district organization or racial balance, or (f) conditions similar to those defined under (a), (b), (c), (d), and (e) of this subsection, creating a like emergency.

(6) The omnibus appropriations act shall identify the state construction cost allowance for school districts. The minimum construction cost allowance shall be calculated based on a three-year rolling average of actual new public K-12 school construction costs per square foot.

(7) The minimum state student space allocations shall be provided as follows:

(a) One hundred forty square feet for students in kindergarten through grade six;

(b) One hundred fifty-five square feet for students in grades seven through eight;

(c) One hundred sixty-five square feet for students in grades nine through twelve; and

(d) One hundred sixty-five square feet for students with disabilities in any grade.

NEW SECTION. **Sec.**  This act takes effect July 1, 2016.

**--- END ---**