

SESSION OF 2007

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 93

As Amended by Senate Committee on
Education

Brief*

SB 93, as amended, would modify the formula used to calculate the high density at-risk pupil weighting in the school finance formula. Under current law, districts having an enrollment of at least 40.0 percent at-risk pupils qualify for the high density weighting and districts having an enrollment of at least 50.0 percent at-risk pupils qualify for a higher weighting. Under current law, small increases or decreases in enrollment of at-risk pupils could cause great fluctuations in the amount of funding a district receives with the weighting.

SB 93 would provide for a linear transition calculation. The weighting would apply to districts having an enrollment of at least 35.0 percent at-risk pupil enrollment and would increase, based on a linear transition formula, as the enrollment of at-risk pupils in a district increased. The calculation would level off at an enrollment of 50.0 percent at-risk pupils. (A linear transition would eliminate large increases or decreases in funding resulting from changes in the enrollment of at-risk pupils.)

In addition, SB 93 lowers the multiplier used to determine the high density at-risk weighting to the following:

- .005533 in school year 2007-2008; and
- .0062 in school year 2008-2009 and each school year thereafter.

*Supplemental notes are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. The supplemental note and fiscal note for this bill may be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.kslegislature.org>

SB 93 also would eliminate a provision in current law that provided additional high density at-risk funding to certain school districts with at least 35.1 percent at-risk pupils and an enrollment density of at least 212.1 pupils per square mile (USD 453 Leavenworth, USD 308 Hutchinson, and USD 202 Turner).

Background

At the hearing on the bill, Senator Vratil and representatives of the Kansas National Education Association and the State Board of Education testified in support of the bill. There were no opponents of the bill.

In order to keep the total fiscal impact of this weighting within estimates presented in the prior year, the Senate Education Committee amended the bill by lowering the multiplier used to determine the high density at-risk pupil weighting of a district. The multiplier was lowered to the following:

- .005533 in school year 2007-2008; and
- .0062 in school year 2008-2009 and each school year thereafter.

The fiscal note on the original bill estimated an additional \$1.9 million would be needed to fund the linear transition. There was no fiscal note provided regarding the amendment that lowered the multiplier.