

1 State of Arkansas
2 95th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2025

A Bill

SENATE BILL 149

4
5 By: Senator J. English
6
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

8
9 AN ACT TO AMEND PUBLIC SCHOOL FUNDING AMOUNTS UNDER
10 THE PUBLIC SCHOOL FUNDING ACT OF 2003; AND FOR OTHER
11 PURPOSES.
12
13

Subtitle

14
15 TO AMEND PUBLIC SCHOOL FUNDING AMOUNTS
16 UNDER THE PUBLIC SCHOOL FUNDING ACT OF
17 2003.
18

19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2305(a)(2), concerning per-student
22 foundation funding amounts under the Public School Funding Act of 2003, is
23 amended to read as follows:

24 (2)(A) For the ~~2023-2024~~ 2025-2026 school year, the foundation
25 funding amount is equal to ~~seven thousand six hundred eighteen dollars~~
26 ~~(\$7,618)~~ eight thousand one hundred sixty-two dollars (\$8,162) multiplied by
27 the school district's average daily membership for the previous school year.

28 (B) For the ~~2024-2025~~ 2026-2027 school year and each
29 school year thereafter, the foundation funding amount is equal to ~~seven~~
30 ~~thousand seven hundred seventy one dollars (\$7,771)~~ eight thousand three
31 hundred seventy-one dollars (\$8,371) multiplied by the school district's
32 average daily membership for the previous school year.
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34 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2305(b)(2)(A), concerning alternative
35 learning environment funding under the Public School Funding Act of 2003, is
36 amended to read as follows:



1 (A)(i) For the ~~2023-2024~~ 2025-2026 school year,
 2 alternative learning environment funding shall be ~~four thousand nine hundred~~
 3 ~~eighty seven dollars (\$4,987)~~ five thousand two hundred twelve dollars
 4 (\$5,212) multiplied by the number of identified alternative learning
 5 environment students enrolled during the previous school year.

6 (ii) For the ~~2024-2025~~ 2026-2027 school year,
 7 alternative learning environment funding shall be ~~five thousand eighty six~~
 8 ~~dollars (\$5,086)~~ five thousand three hundred forty-one dollars (\$5,341)
 9 multiplied by the number of identified alternative learning environment
 10 students enrolled during the previous school year.

11 (iii) Funding for students in alternative learning
 12 environments shall be distributed based on rules promulgated by the State
 13 Board of Education.

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 15 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2305(b)(3), concerning funding for
 16 English learners under the Public School Funding Act of 2003, is amended to
 17 read as follows:

18 (3)(A) For the ~~2023-2024~~ 2025-2026 school year, funding for
 19 students who are identified as English learners shall be ~~three hundred sixty~~
 20 ~~six dollars (\$366)~~ three hundred seventy-five dollars (\$375) for each
 21 identified English learner.

22 (B) Funding for English learners shall be distributed to
 23 public school districts for students who have been identified as not
 24 proficient in the English language based upon a state-approved English
 25 proficiency assessment instrument.

26 (C) Funds allocated for English learners to public school
 27 districts under this subchapter shall be expended only for eligible
 28 activities as identified in current rules promulgated by the State Board of
 29 Education and are a supplement to funding for national school lunch students
 30 provided in subdivision (b)(4) of this section.

31 (D) For the ~~2024-2025~~ 2026-2027 school year and each
 32 school year thereafter, funding for students who are identified as English
 33 learners shall be ~~three hundred sixty six dollars (\$366)~~ three hundred
 34 eighty-four dollars (\$384) for each identified English learner.

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 36 SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2305(b)(4)(A), concerning Enhanced

1 Student Achievement funding under the Public School Funding Act of 2003, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 (4)(A) Enhanced Student Achievement Funding for each identified
4 national school lunch student shall be as follows:

5 (i) For a public school district in which ninety
6 percent (90%) or more of the previous school year's enrolled students are
7 national school lunch students, the amount of per-student Enhanced Student
8 Achievement Funding for the ~~2023-2024~~ 2025-2026 school year is ~~one thousand~~
9 ~~six hundred thirteen dollars (\$1,613)~~ one thousand six hundred fifty-three
10 dollars (\$1,653) and for the ~~2024-2025~~ 2026-2027 school year is ~~one thousand~~
11 ~~six hundred thirteen dollars (\$1,613)~~ one thousand six hundred ninety-four
12 dollars (\$1,694);

13 (ii) For a public school district in which at least
14 seventy percent (70%) but less than ninety percent (90%) of the previous
15 school year's enrolled students are national school lunch students, the
16 amount of per-student Enhanced Student Achievement Funding for the ~~2023-2024~~
17 2025-2026 school year is ~~one thousand seventy-six dollars (\$1,076)~~ one
18 thousand one hundred three dollars (\$1,103) and for the ~~2024-2025~~ 2026-2027
19 school year is ~~one thousand seventy-six dollars (\$1,076)~~ one thousand one
20 hundred thirty dollars (\$1,130); and

21 (iii) For a public school district in which less
22 than seventy percent (70%) of the previous school year's enrolled students
23 are national school lunch students, the amount of per-student Enhanced
24 Student Achievement Funding for the ~~2023-2024~~ 2025-2026 school year is ~~five~~
25 ~~hundred thirty-eight dollars (\$538)~~ five hundred fifty-one dollars (\$551) and
26 for the ~~2024-2025~~ 2026-2027 school year is ~~five hundred thirty-eight dollars~~
27 ~~(\$538)~~ five hundred sixty-five dollars (\$565).

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29 SECTION 5. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2305(b)(5)(C)(i), concerning
30 professional development funding for professional learning communities under
31 the Public School Funding Act of 2003, is amended to read as follows:

32 (C)(i) For the ~~2023-2024~~ 2025-2026 school year and
33 each school year thereafter, additional funding up to sixteen million five
34 hundred thousand dollars (\$16,500,000) provided for professional development
35 above the amount in subdivision (b)(5)(A) of this section shall be used by
36 the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education for the development and

1 administration of professional learning communities for the benefit of public
2 school districts.

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4 SECTION 6. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2305(b)(6)(A), concerning the
5 statewide target average annual salary for teachers under the Public School
6 Funding Act of 2003, is amended to read as follows:

7 (6)(A)(i) Beginning with the 2021-2022 school year, for school
8 districts identified by the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education as
9 having an average annual teacher salary below the statewide target average
10 annual salary, teacher salary equalization funding shall be equal to one
11 hundred eighty-five dollars (\$185) multiplied by the average daily membership
12 of the school district for the previous school year.

13 (ii) For the ~~2023-2024~~ 2025-2026 and ~~2024-2025~~ 2026-
14 2027 school years, the statewide target average annual salary shall be fifty-
15 one thousand eight hundred twenty-two dollars (\$51,822).

16 (iii) The House Committee on Education and the
17 Senate Committee on Education shall set jointly the statewide target average
18 annual salary for the ~~2025-2026~~ 2027-2028 and ~~2026-2027~~ 2028-2029 school
19 years, and each biennium thereafter, as part of the adequacy review process
20 required under § 10-3-2102.

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