

2/22/96 Approp

FILED FEB 22 1996

SENATE FILE 2275

BY FLYNN

Passed Senate, Date \_\_\_\_\_ Passed House, Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_  
 Approved \_\_\_\_\_

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act permitting the school budget review committee to grant  
 2 transportation assistance aid to certain school districts and  
 3 providing for an appropriation.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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S.F. 2275

1 Section 1. Section 257.31, Code 1995, is amended by adding  
2 the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 17. a. The committee may grant  
4 transportation assistance aid to a school district from funds  
5 appropriated in this subsection for the purpose of providing  
6 additional funds for a budget year to school districts whose  
7 base year average transportation cost per pupil exceeds the  
8 base year state average transportation cost per pupil. A  
9 district's average transportation cost per pupil shall be  
10 determined by dividing the district's actual cost for all  
11 children transported in all school buses for the base year  
12 pursuant to section 285.1, subsection 12, less the amount  
13 received for transporting nonpublic school pupils under  
14 section 285.1, by the district's actual enrollment for the  
15 base year, less the shared-time enrollment for the base year  
16 as defined in section 257.6. The state average transportation  
17 cost per pupil shall be determined by dividing the total  
18 actual cost for all children transported in all districts for  
19 the base year by the total of all districts' actual  
20 enrollments for the base year. To be eligible for  
21 transportation assistance aid, a school district shall  
22 annually certify its actual cost for all children transported  
23 in all school buses for the base year not later than July 15  
24 of the budget year on forms prescribed by the committee. The  
25 committee shall prioritize the requests of school districts  
26 ranking the districts by their average transportation cost per  
27 pupil as calculated under this paragraph, with consideration  
28 given to sparsity of population and geographic size of the  
29 district. Within the limits of the funds appropriated in this  
30 subsection, transportation assistance aid shall be paid to  
31 districts in the order of the priority ranking.  
32 Transportation assistance aid for a budget year for a district  
33 is equal to the amount by which the district's average  
34 transportation cost per pupil for the base year exceeds one  
35 hundred ten percent of the state average transportation cost

1 per pupil for the base year multiplied by the district's  
2 actual enrollment for the base year less the shared-time  
3 enrollment for the base year as defined in section 257.6. The  
4 committee shall adopt rules establishing a procedure for  
5 prioritizing requests.

6 Payment for a school year shall be made by September 1 of  
7 the budget year.

8 b. There is appropriated from the general fund of the  
9 state to the department of education for the use of the school  
10 budget review committee, for each fiscal year, the amount of  
11 one million five hundred thousand dollars, or as much thereof  
12 as may be necessary, to pay the transportation assistance aid  
13 to school districts ranked in the highest priority under this  
14 subsection.

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#### EXPLANATION

16 This bill appropriates \$1.5 million to the department of  
17 education for the use of the school budget review committee to  
18 pay transportation assistance to school districts ranking in  
19 the highest priority of need based on the highest average  
20 transportation cost per pupil and considering sparsity of  
21 population and geographic size of the district.

22 The bill determines a district's average transportation  
23 cost per pupil by dividing the district's actual cost for all  
24 children entitled to transportation services who are  
25 transported in all school buses for a base year, less the  
26 amount received for transporting nonpublic school pupils, by  
27 the district's actual enrollment for the base year, less the  
28 shared-time enrollment for the school year. The state average  
29 transportation cost per pupil is determined by dividing the  
30 total actual cost for all children transported in all  
31 districts for a base year by the total of all districts'  
32 actual enrollments for the base year. The committee shall  
33 prioritize the requests, ranking the districts by their  
34 average transportation cost per pupil, with consideration  
35 given to sparsity of population and geographic size of the

1 district. Within the limits of the funds appropriated, the  
2 committee shall pay transportation assistance aid to those  
3 districts ranked in the highest priority based upon the  
4 criteria listed. Payments to a school district whose average  
5 transportation costs per pupil exceed 110 percent of the state  
6 average transportation cost per pupil shall be equal to the  
7 amount by which the district's average transportation cost per  
8 pupil for the base year exceeds 110 percent of the state  
9 average transportation cost per pupil for the base year  
10 multiplied by the district's actual enrollment for the base  
11 year less the shared-time enrollment for the base year.

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