

# House File 2255 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 2255

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## A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to school district funding for at-risk pupils  
2 and dropout prevention programs and including applicability  
3 provisions.  
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 257.11, subsection 4, Code 2014, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 4. *At-risk programs and alternative schools.*

4 ~~a.~~ In order to provide additional funding to school  
5 districts for programs serving at-risk pupils and alternative  
6 school pupils in secondary schools, a supplementary weighting  
7 plan for at-risk pupils is adopted. A supplementary weighting  
8 of ~~forty-eight~~ six hundred forty-two ten-thousandths per pupil  
9 shall be assigned to the percentage of pupils in a school  
10 district enrolled in grades one through six, as reported by  
11 the school district on the basic educational data survey for  
12 the base year, who are eligible for free and reduced price  
13 meals under the federal National School Lunch Act and the  
14 federal Child Nutrition Act of 1966, 42 U.S.C. § 1751-1785,  
15 multiplied by the budget enrollment in the school district;  
16 and a supplementary weighting of ~~one hundred fifty-six~~  
17 ~~one hundred thousandths~~ two hundred four ten-thousandths  
18 per pupil shall be assigned to pupils included in the budget  
19 enrollment of the school district. Amounts received as  
20 supplementary weighting for at-risk pupils shall be utilized  
21 by a school district to develop or maintain at-risk pupils'  
22 programs, which may include alternative school programs, and to  
23 establish or maintain approved programs for returning dropouts  
24 and dropout prevention under sections 257.38 through 257.41.

25 ~~b.~~ Notwithstanding paragraph "a", a school district which  
26 received supplementary weighting for an alternative high school  
27 program for the school budget year beginning July 1, 1999,  
28 shall receive an amount of supplementary weighting for the next  
29 three school budget years as follows:

30 ~~(1) For the budget year beginning July 1, 2000, the greater~~  
31 ~~of the amount of supplementary weighting determined pursuant to~~  
32 ~~paragraph "a", or sixty-five percent of the amount received for~~  
33 ~~the budget year beginning July 1, 1999.~~

34 ~~(2) For the budget year beginning July 1, 2001, the greater~~  
35 ~~of the amount of supplementary weighting determined pursuant to~~

1 ~~paragraph "a", or forty percent of the amount received for the~~  
2 ~~budget year beginning July 1, 1999.~~

3 ~~(3) For the budget year beginning July 1, 2002, and~~  
4 ~~succeeding budget years, the amount of supplementary weighting~~  
5 ~~determined pursuant to paragraph "a".~~

6 ~~c. If a school district receives an amount pursuant to~~  
7 ~~paragraph "b" which exceeds the amount the district would~~  
8 ~~otherwise have received pursuant to paragraph "a", the~~  
9 ~~department of management shall annually determine the amount~~  
10 ~~of the excess that would have been state aid and the amount~~  
11 ~~that would have been property tax if the school district had~~  
12 ~~generated that amount pursuant to paragraph "a", and shall~~  
13 ~~include the amounts in the state aid payments and property tax~~  
14 ~~levies of school districts. The department of management shall~~  
15 ~~recalculate the supplementary weighting amount received each~~  
16 ~~year to reflect the amount of the reduction in funding from one~~  
17 ~~budget year to the next pursuant to paragraph "b", subparagraphs~~  
18 ~~(1) through (3). It is the intent of the general assembly that~~  
19 ~~when weights are recalculated under this subsection, the total~~  
20 ~~amounts generated by each weight shall be approximately equal.~~

21 Sec. 2. Section 257.38, subsection 1, unnumbered paragraph  
22 1, Code 2014, is amended to read as follows:

23 Boards of school districts, ~~individually or jointly with~~  
24 ~~boards of other school districts,~~ requesting to use a modified  
25 supplemental amount amounts received as supplementary weighting  
26 for at-risk pupils under section 257.11, subsection 4, for  
27 programs for returning dropouts and dropout prevention, shall  
28 submit, individually or jointly with boards of other school  
29 districts, comprehensive program plans for the programs  
30 and budget costs, including annual requests for a modified  
31 supplemental amount for funding the programs, to the department  
32 of education as a component of the comprehensive school  
33 improvement plan submitted to the department pursuant to  
34 section 256.7, subsection 21. The program plans shall include:

35 Sec. 3. Section 257.40, Code 2014, is amended to read as

1 follows:

2     **257.40 Approval of programs for returning dropouts and**  
 3 **dropout prevention — annual report.**

4     1. a. The board of directors of a school district  
 5 requesting to use ~~a modified supplemental amount~~ amounts  
 6 received as supplementary weighting for at-risk pupils under  
 7 section 257.11, subsection 4, for programs for returning  
 8 dropouts and dropout prevention shall submit requests,  
 9 including requests for a modified at-risk supplemental amount,  
 10 ~~including budget costs, if applicable,~~ to the department not  
 11 later than December 15 of the year preceding the budget year  
 12 during which the program will be offered. The department shall  
 13 review the request and shall prior to January 15 either grant  
 14 approval for the request or return the request for approval  
 15 with comments of the department included. An unapproved  
 16 request for a program may be resubmitted with modifications  
 17 to the department not later than February 1. Not later than  
 18 February 15, the department shall notify the department of  
 19 management ~~and the school budget review committee~~ of the names  
 20 of the school districts for which programs using ~~a modified~~  
 21 ~~supplemental amount~~ amounts received as supplementary weighting  
 22 for at-risk pupils under section 257.11, subsection 4, for  
 23 funding have been approved and the approved budget of each  
 24 program listed separately for each school district having  
 25 an approved request. The department shall also notify the  
 26 department of management of the names of the school districts  
 27 for which programs using a modified supplemental amount have  
 28 been approved pursuant to paragraph "b".

29     b. (1) For budget years beginning on or after July 1, 2015,  
 30 the department shall not approve a modified supplemental amount  
 31 for a school district for programs for returning dropouts and  
 32 dropout prevention unless subparagraph (2) is applicable to the  
 33 school district.

34     (2) Each school district for which the remainder of the  
 35 amount received as supplementary weighting under section

1 257.11, subsection 4, for the budget year minus the amount  
 2 that would have been received as supplementary weighting by  
 3 the school district for the budget year under section 257.11,  
 4 subsection 4, Code 2014, is less than the modified supplemental  
 5 amount received by the school district for the budget year  
 6 beginning July 1, 2014, the department of management shall  
 7 establish a modified supplemental amount for the budget year  
 8 equal to the difference in the remainder and the modified  
 9 supplemental amount received by the school district for the  
 10 budget year beginning July 1, 2014.

11 2. Beginning January 15, 2007 2015, the department shall  
 12 submit an annual report to the chairpersons and ranking members  
 13 of the senate and house education committees that includes the  
 14 ways school districts in the previous school year used ~~modified~~  
 15 ~~supplemental~~ amounts received as supplementary weighting for  
 16 at-risk pupils and amounts received as the result of a modified  
 17 supplemental amount approved under subsection 1; identifies,  
 18 by grade level, age, and district size, the students in  
 19 the dropout and dropout prevention programs for which the  
 20 department approves a request; describes school district  
 21 progress toward increasing student achievement and attendance  
 22 for the students in the programs; and describes how the school  
 23 districts are using the revenues from the modified supplemental  
 24 amounts and amounts received as supplementary weighting for  
 25 at-risk pupils to improve student achievement among minority  
 26 subgroups.

27 Sec. 4. Section 257.41, subsection 1, Code 2014, is amended  
 28 to read as follows:

29 1. *Budget.* The budget of an approved program for returning  
 30 dropouts and dropout prevention for a school district,  
 31 after subtracting funds received from other sources for that  
 32 purpose, shall be funded annually ~~on a basis of one-fourth~~  
 33 ~~or more from the district cost of the school district and~~  
 34 ~~up to three-fourths by an increase in supplemental state~~  
 35 ~~aid as defined in section 257.8~~ using amounts received as

1 supplementary weighting for at-risk pupils under section  
2 257.11, subsection 4, and amounts received as modified  
3 supplemental amounts pursuant to section 257.40. Annually,  
4 ~~the department of management shall establish a modified~~  
5 ~~supplemental amount for each such school district equal to the~~  
6 ~~difference between the approved budget for the program for~~  
7 ~~returning dropouts and dropout prevention for that district~~  
8 ~~and the sum of the amount funded from the district cost of the~~  
9 ~~school district plus funds received from other sources.~~

10 Sec. 5. Section 257.41, subsection 2, paragraph d, Code  
11 2014, is amended to read as follows:

12 d. Up to five percent of the total budgeted amount  
13 ~~received pursuant to subsection 1 that is~~ amounts received  
14 as supplementary weighting for at-risk pupils under section  
15 257.11, subsection 4, or that is received as modified  
16 supplemental amounts pursuant to section 257.40, may be used  
17 for purposes of providing district-wide or building-wide  
18 returning dropout and dropout prevention programming targeted  
19 to students who are not deemed at risk of dropping out.

20 Sec. 6. Section 257.41, subsection 3, Code 2014, is amended  
21 by striking the subsection.

22 Sec. 7. APPLICABILITY. This Act applies to school budget  
23 years beginning on or after July 1, 2015.

24 EXPLANATION

25 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
26 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

27 Current Code section 257.11(4) provides additional funding  
28 for school districts to develop or maintain programs for  
29 at-risk pupils, including alternative schools, through  
30 supplemental weighting. This bill establishes a supplementary  
31 weighting of 0.0642 per pupil for pupils in grades one through  
32 six who are eligible for free and reduced price meals and  
33 establishes a supplementary weighting of 0.0204 for all  
34 pupils in the budget enrollment of the school district. The  
35 bill provides that amounts received as the result of the

1 supplementary weighting for at-risk pupils shall, in addition  
2 to developing and maintaining at-risk programs, be utilized by  
3 a school district to establish or maintain approved programs  
4 for returning dropouts and dropout prevention.

5 Under current law, dropout prevention programs may be  
6 funded, in part, using a modified supplemental amount  
7 (previously referred to as modified allowable growth). Current  
8 Code section 257.41 provides that the budget of an approved  
9 dropout prevention program, after subtracting funds received  
10 from other sources for that purpose, shall be funded annually  
11 on a basis of one-fourth or more from the district cost of  
12 the school district and up to three-fourths by an increase in  
13 supplemental state aid.

14 Except for school districts meeting specified budget  
15 criteria relating to dropout prevention programs, the bill  
16 removes modified supplemental amounts as a funding source  
17 for dropout prevention programs and makes corresponding  
18 changes to other provisions of law relating to the approval  
19 and administration of dropout prevention programs to reflect  
20 a school district's authority to use amounts received as the  
21 result of the supplementary weighting for at-risk pupils for  
22 dropout prevention programs, as established in the bill.

23 The bill provides that for budget years beginning on or  
24 after July 1, 2015, the department of education shall not  
25 approve a modified supplemental amount for a school district  
26 for programs for returning dropouts and dropout prevention  
27 unless certain conditions are met relating to a decrease in  
28 funding as compared to funding received by the school district  
29 as a modified supplemental amount for programs for returning  
30 dropouts and dropout prevention for the budget year beginning  
31 July 1, 2014.

32 The bill applies to school budget years beginning on or after  
33 July 1, 2015.