HOUSE FILE 141

BY WINCKLER, GASKILL, STAED, R. SMITH, ABDUL-SAMAD, KACENA, BROWN-POWERS, LENSING, STECKMAN, HUNTER, HANSON, ANDERSON, KEARNS, OURTH, BEARINGER, WOLFE, JACOBY, MASCHER, GAINES, and MILLER

A BILL FOR

1 An Act authorizing a voter-approved increase in the regular
2 program district cost per pupil and including applicability
3 provisions.
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 257.10, subsection 2, paragraph b, Code
2 2017, is amended to read as follows:
3 *b.* If the regular program district cost per pupil of a
4 school district for the budget year under paragraph *"a"* exceeds
5 one hundred five percent of the regular program state cost
6 per pupil for the budget year and the state percent of growth
7 for the budget year is greater than two percent, the regular
8 program district cost per pupil for the budget year for that
9 district shall be reduced to one hundred five percent of the
10 regular program state cost per pupil for the budget year.
11 However, under such conditions, if the difference between the
12 regular program district cost per pupil for the budget year and
13 the regular program state cost per pupil for the budget year
14 is greater than an amount equal to two percent multiplied by
15 the regular program state cost per pupil for the base year, the
16 regular program district cost per pupil for the budget year
17 shall be reduced by the amount equal to two percent multiplied
18 by the regular program state cost per pupil for the base year.
19 Sec. 2. Section 257.10, subsection 2, Code 2017, is amended
20 by adding the following new paragraph:
21 NEW PARAGRAPH. *c.* (1) In order to provide regular
22 program district cost per pupil equity among all school
23 districts in the state, following approval at election under
24 subparagraph (2), the regular program district cost per pupil
25 for a district shall be increased by the amount per pupil
26 approved at election, not to exceed the amount authorized under
27 subparagraph (3).
28 (2) The board of directors of a school district may, on
29 its own motion, or shall, upon receipt of a petition signed by
30 eligible electors equal in number to at least thirty percent of
31 the number of voters who voted at the last preceding regular
32 school election, direct the county commissioner of elections
33 to submit to the registered voters of the school district the
34 question of whether to increase the school district's regular
35 program district cost per pupil. The ballot shall specify

1 the amount by which the regular program district cost per
2 pupil is to be increased, not to exceed the limitation under
3 subparagraph (3), and the budget year for which the increase
4 will take effect. The question shall be submitted at an
5 election held on a date specified in section 39.2, subsection
6 4, paragraph *c*. If a majority of the votes cast upon the
7 proposition is in favor of the proposition, the department of
8 management shall increase the school district's regular program
9 district cost per pupil by the amount approved by the voters
10 beginning with the budget year specified on the ballot. For
11 an increase to apply to a budget year, the election approving
12 the increase must occur before the school district's budget
13 for that budget year is certified under section 24.17. When
14 a proposition to authorize an increase in a school district's
15 regular program district cost per pupil has been submitted to
16 the electors under this section and the proposition fails to
17 gain approval, a proposition under this paragraph shall not be
18 submitted to the electors for a period of six months from the
19 date of election at which the proposition failed.
20   (3) The amount by which a school district's regular program
21 district cost per pupil may be increased under this paragraph
22 shall not exceed an amount equal to the difference between the
23 school district's regular program district cost per pupil and
24 the highest regular program district cost per pupil among all
25 school districts in the state.
26   Sec. 3. APPLICABILITY. This Act applies to school budget
27 years beginning on or after July 1, 2018.
28   EXPLANATION

29   *The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with*
30   *the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.*

31   This bill authorizes the voters of a school district to
32 approve an increase in a school district's regular program
33 district cost per pupil, subject to limitations established in
34 the bill.
35   The board of directors of a school district may, on its

1 own motion, or shall, upon receipt of a petition signed by
2 eligible electors equal in number to at least 30 percent of
3 the number of voters who voted at the last preceding regular
4 school election, direct the county commissioner of elections
5 to submit to the registered voters of the school district the
6 question of whether to increase the school district's regular
7 program district cost per pupil. The ballot must specify the
8 amount by which the regular program district cost per pupil
9 is to be increased and the budget year for which the increase
10 will take effect. If a majority of the votes cast upon the
11 proposition is in favor of the proposition, the department
12 of management is required to increase the school district's
13 regular program district cost per pupil by the amount approved
14 by the voters beginning with the budget year specified on the
15 ballot. However, for an increase to apply to a budget year,
16 the election approving the increase must occur before the
17 school district's budget for that budget year is certified
18 under Code section 24.17.
19 When a proposition to authorize an increase in a school
20 district's regular program district cost per pupil has been
21 submitted to the electors and the proposition fails to gain
22 approval, another proposition may not be submitted to the
23 electors for a period of six months from the date of election
24 at which the proposition failed.
25 Under the bill, the amount by which a school district's
26 regular program district cost per pupil may be increased shall
27 not exceed an amount equal to the difference between the school
28 district's regular program district cost per pupil and the
29 highest regular program district cost per pupil among all
30 school districts in the state.
31 The bill also specifies that existing Code language related
32 to adjustments to a school district's regular program district
33 cost per pupil if certain conditions are met provides for a
34 different adjustment if certain other conditions are met.
35 The bill applies to school budget years beginning on or after

1 July 1, 2018.