

Senate File 2155 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 2155
BY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(SUCCESSOR TO SF 2065)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act establishing authority for school districts to impose
2 additional property taxes and income surtaxes for certain
3 school resource officer expenses under the instructional
4 support program.

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

1 Section 1. Section 257.19, subsections 1 and 2, Code 2020,
2 are amended to read as follows:

3 1. The additional funding for the instructional support
4 program for a budget year is limited to an amount not exceeding
5 ten percent of the total of regular program district cost
6 for the budget year and moneys received under section 257.14
7 as a budget adjustment for the budget year, plus, for school
8 budget years beginning on or after July 1, 2021, and following
9 adoption of the resolution under subsection 4, paragraph
10 "0b", an amount not to exceed the cost of school resource
11 officer expenses for that budget year. Moneys Except as
12 provided in subsection 4, moneys received by a district for the
13 instructional support program are miscellaneous income and may
14 be used for any general fund purpose. However, moneys received
15 by a district for the instructional support program shall not
16 be used as, or in a manner which has the effect of, supplanting
17 funds authorized to be received under sections 257.41, 257.46,
18 298.2, and 298.4, or to cover any deficiencies in funding for
19 special education instructional services resulting from the
20 application of the special education weighting plan under
21 section 256B.9.

22 2. Certification of a board's intent to participate for a
23 budget year, a copy of the resolution adopted under subsection
24 4, paragraph "0b", if applicable, the method of funding, and
25 the amount to be raised shall be made to the department of
26 management not later than April 15 of the base year. Funding
27 for the instructional support program shall be obtained from
28 instructional support state aid and from local funding using
29 either an instructional support property tax or a combination
30 of an instructional support property tax and an instructional
31 support income surtax.

32 Sec. 2. Section 257.19, Code 2020, is amended by adding the
33 following new subsection:

34 NEW SUBSECTION. 4. a. The amount of funding for a budget
35 year under subsection 1 in excess of ten percent of the school

1 district's total of regular program district cost for the
2 budget year and moneys received under section 257.14 as a
3 budget adjustment for the budget year shall be used only for
4 school resource officer expenses.

5 *Ob.* If a school district intends to certify an additional
6 amount of funding to be used as provided in paragraph "a" for a
7 budget year, the board of directors shall adopt a resolution
8 specifying the additional amount to be certified for the budget
9 year.

10 *b.* For each school district that has approved participation
11 in the instructional support program before July 1, 2020, for a
12 term of years that includes a school budget year beginning on
13 or after July 1, 2021, the school district shall not certify
14 an amount in excess of ten percent of the school district's
15 total of regular program district cost for the budget year and
16 moneys received under section 257.14 as a budget adjustment
17 for the budget year unless the additional amount for school
18 resource officer expenses is authorized in the manner provided
19 in section 257.18.

20 *c.* For purposes of this section, "*school resource officer*
21 *expenses*" means the cost to provide or employ one school
22 resource officer, as defined in 34 U.S.C. §10389, and the cost
23 of the personal safety equipment for that school resource
24 officer.

25 EXPLANATION

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

28 This bill authorizes school districts to raise additional
29 amounts of property tax or income surtax under the
30 instructional support program for certain school resource
31 officer expenses.

32 Code section 257.18 authorizes school districts to raise
33 additional amounts of funding by property taxes or income
34 surtaxes for school general fund purposes. The amount
35 authorized to be raised is limited to an amount not exceeding

1 10 percent of the total of regular program district cost for
2 the budget year and moneys received as a budget adjustment for
3 the budget year. Participation in the instructional support
4 program may be for a period not to exceed 10 years subject
5 to voter approval or for a period of 5 years if approved by
6 the school board, subject to a voter petition requesting an
7 election.

8 The bill authorizes an additional annual amount of funding
9 under the instructional support program for school resource
10 officer expenses only for school budget years beginning on or
11 after July 1, 2021.

12 The bill defines "school resource officer expenses" to mean
13 the cost to provide or employ one school resource officer as
14 defined by federal law and the cost of the personal safety
15 equipment for that school resource officer. The federal
16 law definition of "school resource officer" is a career
17 law enforcement officer, with sworn authority, deployed in
18 community-oriented policing, and assigned by the employing
19 police department or agency to work in collaboration with
20 schools and community-based organizations to address crime
21 and disorder problems, gangs, and drug activities affecting
22 or occurring in or around an elementary or secondary school;
23 to develop or expand crime prevention efforts for students;
24 to educate likely school-age victims in crime prevention and
25 safety; to develop or expand community justice initiatives for
26 students; to train students in conflict resolution, restorative
27 justice, and crime awareness; to assist in the identification
28 of physical changes in the environment that may reduce crime in
29 or around the school; and to assist in developing school policy
30 that addresses crime and to recommend procedural changes.

31 The bill also provides that for each school district that
32 has approved participation in the instructional support program
33 before July 1, 2020, for a term of years that includes a school
34 budget year beginning on or after July 1, 2021, the school
35 district shall not certify an amount in excess of the current

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1 law maximum amount unless the additional amount for school
2 resource officer expenses is authorized in the manner provided
3 for participation in the instructional support program.

4 In addition, if a school district intends to certify an
5 additional amount of funding for the school resource officer
6 expenses for a budget year, the school board must adopt a
7 resolution specifying the additional amount to be certified.