

Senate File 65 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 65

BY MATHIS

A BILL FOR

1 An Act authorizing school districts to use funding from the
2 secure an advanced vision for education fund for certain
3 preschool program costs.

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

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 256C.6 Start-up and expansion
2 funding — secure an advanced vision for education funds.

3 1. For school budget years beginning on or after July 1,
4 2022, a school district may as part of the application for
5 participation in the preschool program or separately under
6 the application process established in this section, request
7 approval from the department to adopt a resolution and revenue
8 purpose statement under section 423F.3, subsection 3, paragraph
9 "a", subparagraph (2), to use a portion of the funds received
10 under chapter 423F for up to three consecutive school budget
11 years for costs associated with the school district's initial
12 school year participating in the statewide preschool program
13 or costs associated with expansion of the school district's
14 approved local program, including preschool infrastructure
15 costs.

16 2. Prior to the department approving a school district
17 to use funding received under chapter 423F for the purposes
18 specified in subsection 1, the school district shall, in
19 addition to other relevant requirements established by the
20 department by rule, demonstrate an insufficient capacity of
21 public or private preschool programs within the school district
22 boundaries and satisfy one or more of the following:

23 a. A percentage of students in the school district who are
24 limited English proficient exceeds the statewide average.

25 b. A percentage of students in the school district who are
26 eligible for free and reduced price meals under the federal
27 National School Lunch Act and the federal Child Nutrition Act
28 of 1966, 42 U.S.C. §1751-1785, that exceeds the statewide
29 average.

30 c. More than fifteen percent of one or more attendance
31 center's students are not reading proficiently and are
32 persistently at risk in reading by the end of third grade.

33 3. Funding received under chapter 423F that is approved and
34 used for the purposes of this section shall supplement, not
35 supplant, existing public funding for preschool programming,

1 shall not reduce or affect the amount of preschool foundation
2 aid received by a school district under section 256C.5, and
3 shall not be transferred to the school district's flexibility
4 account under section 298A.2, subsection 2.

5 4. The department shall adopt rules relating to the
6 application procedures for the approval of the use of funds
7 available under this section, both as part of the application
8 for participation in the preschool program and separately for
9 school districts with an approved local program.

10 Sec. 2. Section 423F.3, subsection 3, paragraph a, Code
11 2021, is amended to read as follows:

12 a. (1) If the board of directors adopts a resolution to
13 use funds received under the operation of [this chapter](#) solely
14 for providing property tax relief by reducing indebtedness from
15 the levies specified under [section 298.2](#) or [298.18](#), the board
16 of directors may approve a revenue purpose statement for that
17 purpose without submitting the revenue purpose statement to a
18 vote of the electors.

19 (2) For fiscal years beginning on or after July 1, 2022,
20 in addition to the purposes under subparagraph (1), if the
21 board of directors, following approval by the department of
22 education under section 256C.6, adopts a resolution to use
23 a portion of the funds received under the operation of this
24 chapter for up to three consecutive school budget years for
25 costs associated with the school district's initial school
26 year participating in the statewide preschool program under
27 chapter 256C or costs associated with expansion of the school
28 district's approved local program under chapter 256C, including
29 preschool infrastructure costs, the board of directors may
30 approve a revenue purpose statement for that purpose without
31 submitting the revenue purpose statement to a vote of the
32 electors. The aggregate amount of funds received under this
33 chapter that may be approved for the uses specified under this
34 subparagraph is limited to an amount equal to the total amount
35 of funds received by the school district under this chapter for

1 the first fiscal year for which such use is approved. Funds
2 approved for use under this subparagraph shall not relieve the
3 school district of funding use requirements established in the
4 school district's voter-approved revenue purpose statement, if
5 applicable.

6 EXPLANATION

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

9 For school budget years beginning on or after July 1, 2022,
10 this bill authorizes a school district to request approval from
11 the department of education to adopt a resolution and a revenue
12 purpose statement under Code chapter 423F to use a portion
13 of the funds received from the secure an advanced vision for
14 education (SAVE) fund for up to three consecutive school budget
15 years for costs associated with the school district's initial
16 school year participating in the statewide preschool program
17 under Code chapter 256C or costs associated with expansion of
18 the school district's approved local program under Code chapter
19 256C, including preschool infrastructure costs.

20 School districts approved to use SAVE funds for the
21 purposes specified in the bill, in addition to other relevant
22 requirements established by the department of education by
23 rule, shall demonstrate an insufficient capacity of public
24 or private preschool programs within the school district
25 boundaries and satisfy one or more of the following: (1)
26 a percentage of students in the school district who are
27 limited English proficient exceeds the statewide average;
28 (2) a percentage of students in the school district who are
29 eligible for free and reduced price meals that exceeds the
30 statewide average; and (3) more than 15 percent of one or more
31 attendance center's students are not reading proficiently and
32 are persistently at risk in reading by the end of third grade.

33 If the department of education approves the school
34 district's use of SAVE funds for such preschool program
35 purposes, the school board may approve a revenue purpose

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1 statement for that purpose without submitting the revenue
2 purpose statement to a vote of the electors. The aggregate
3 amount of SAVE funds that may be approved for the uses in
4 the bill is limited to an amount equal to the total amount
5 of SAVE funds received by the school district for the first
6 fiscal year for which such use is approved. Funds approved
7 for such uses shall not relieve the school district of
8 funding use requirements established in the school district's
9 voter-approved revenue purpose statement, if applicable.