

Senate File 91 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 91
BY PETERSEN and BLAKE

A BILL FOR

1 An Act modifying provisions related to the determination
2 of school enrollment, and including effective date and
3 applicability provisions.
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

unofficial

1 Section 1. Section 257.6, subsection 1, paragraph a,
2 unnumbered paragraph 1, Code 2025, is amended to read as follows:

3 Actual enrollment is determined annually by calculating the
4 average of the sum of all of the following on October 1, or
5 the first Monday in October if October 1 falls on a Saturday
6 or Sunday, and includes all of the following and the sum of all
7 of the following on March 1 immediately succeeding the October
8 determination, or the succeeding Monday if March 1 falls on a
9 Saturday or Sunday:

10 Sec. 2. Section 257.6, subsection 3, Code 2025, is amended to
11 read as follows:

12 3. *Additional enrollment because of special education.*

13 a. A school district shall determine its additional
14 enrollment because of special education, as defined in this
15 section, by ~~November~~ October 1 of each year, or by the first
16 Monday in October if October 1 falls on a Saturday or Sunday,
17 and shall certify its additional enrollment because of special
18 education to the department of education by ~~November~~ October 15
19 of each year, or by the succeeding Monday if October 15 falls on
20 a Saturday or Sunday, and the department shall promptly forward
21 the information to the department of management.

22 b. For the purposes of this chapter, "additional enrollment
23 *because of special education*" is determined by calculating the
24 average of the following:

25 (1) An amount determined by multiplying the weighting of
26 each category of child under section 256B.9 times the number of
27 children in each category totaled for all categories minus the
28 total number of children in all categories, as determined on
29 March 1 immediately succeeding the October determination under
30 subparagraph (2), or the succeeding Monday if March 1 falls on a
31 Saturday or Sunday.

32 (2) An amount determined by multiplying the weighting of
33 each category of child under section 256B.9 times the number of
34 children in each category totaled for all categories minus the
35 total number of children in all categories, as determined on

1 October 1 of each year, or the first Monday in October if October
2 1 falls on a Saturday or Sunday.

3 Sec. 3. Section 257.6, subsection 5, paragraph a, Code 2025,
4 is amended to read as follows:

5 a. Weighted enrollment is the budget enrollment plus the
6 district's additional enrollment because of special education
7 calculated ~~by November 1~~ in October of the base year under
8 subsection 3 plus additional pupils added due to the application
9 of the supplementary weighting as determined under subsection 5A.

10 Sec. 4. Section 257.6, Code 2025, is amended by adding the
11 following new subsection:

12 NEW SUBSECTION. 5A. Pupils added due to application of
13 supplementary weighting.

14 a. A school district shall determine its pupils added due
15 to application of supplementary weighting by October 1 of each
16 year, or by the first Monday in October if October 1 falls on
17 a Saturday or Sunday, and shall certify its pupils added due to
18 the application of supplementary weighting to the department of
19 education by October 15 of each year, or by the succeeding Monday
20 if October 15 falls on a Saturday or Sunday, and the department
21 shall promptly forward the information to the department of
22 management.

23 b. For the purposes of this chapter, "*pupils added due*
24 *to application of supplementary weighting*" is determined by
25 calculating the average of the following:

26 (1) The sum of the number of additional pupils assigned to
27 a student or to the school district under section 257.11 or
28 280.4, or other provision of law providing for supplementary
29 weighting, but excluding those under subsection 1, as determined
30 on March 1 immediately succeeding the October determination under
31 subparagraph (2), or the succeeding Monday if March 1 falls on a
32 Saturday or Sunday.

33 (2) The sum of the number of additional pupils assigned to a
34 student or to the school district under section 257.11 or 280.4,
35 or other provision of law providing for supplementary weighting,

1 but excluding those under subsection 1, as determined on October
2 1 of each year, or the first Monday in October if October 1 falls
3 on a Saturday or Sunday.

4 Sec. 5. Section 261E.7, subsection 1, unnumbered paragraph 1,
5 Code 2025, is amended to read as follows:

6 Not later than June 30 of each year, a school district shall
7 pay a tuition reimbursement amount to a postsecondary institution
8 that has enrolled its resident eligible students under this
9 chapter, unless the eligible student is participating in open
10 enrollment under section 282.18, in which case, the tuition
11 reimbursement amount shall be paid by the receiving district.
12 However, if a child's residency changes during a school year,
13 the tuition shall be paid by the district in which the child
14 was enrolled as of the October date specified in section 257.6,
15 subsection 1, paragraph "a", or the district in which the child
16 was counted under section 257.6, subsection 1, paragraph "a",
17 subparagraph (6), as of the October date specified in section
18 257.6, subsection 1, paragraph "a". For students enrolled at the
19 Iowa school for the deaf, the department of education shall pay a
20 tuition reimbursement amount by June 30 of each year. The amount
21 of tuition reimbursement for each separate course shall equal the
22 lesser of:

23 Sec. 6. Section 273.5, subsection 5, Code 2025, is amended to
24 read as follows:

25 5. Provide Annually provide each school district within the
26 area served and the department of education with a special
27 education weighted enrollment count, including the additional
28 enrollment because of special education ~~for December 1 of each~~
29 ~~year~~.

30 Sec. 7. Section 279.60, subsection 1, Code 2025, is amended
31 to read as follows:

32 1. Each school district shall administer the teaching
33 strategies gold early childhood assessment to every resident
34 prekindergarten or four-year-old child whose parent or guardian
35 enrolls the child in the district, and shall administer a valid

1 and reliable universal screening instrument, as prescribed by the
2 department of education, to every kindergarten student enrolled
3 in the district not later than the October date specified in
4 section 257.6, subsection 1, paragraph "a". The assessment shall
5 be aligned with state early learning standards and preschool
6 programs shall be encouraged to administer the assessment at
7 least at the beginning and end of the preschool program, with the
8 assessment information entered into the statewide longitudinal
9 data system. The department shall work to develop agreements
10 with head start programs to incorporate similar information about
11 four-year-old children served by head start into the statewide
12 longitudinal data system.

13 Sec. 8. Section 282.12, subsection 4, Code 2025, is amended
14 to read as follows:

15 4. The number of pupils participating in a whole grade
16 sharing agreement shall be determined on the October date
17 specified in section 257.6, subsection 1, paragraph "a", and on
18 the second Friday of January of each year.

19 Sec. 9. Section 282.18, subsection 9, paragraph a, Code 2025,
20 is amended to read as follows:

21 a. If a parent or guardian of a child, who is participating
22 in open enrollment under this section, moves to a different
23 school district during the course of either district's academic
24 year, the child's first district of residence as determined
25 on the October date specified in section 257.6, subsection 1,
26 paragraph "a", shall be responsible for payment of the cost per
27 pupil plus weightings or special education costs to the receiving
28 school district for the balance of the school year in which
29 the move took place. The new district of residence shall be
30 responsible for the payments during succeeding years.

31 Sec. 10. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act, being deemed of immediate
32 importance, takes effect upon enactment.

33 Sec. 11. APPLICABILITY. This Act applies to actual
34 enrollment determinations for school budget years beginning on or
35 after the effective date of this Act.

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EXPLANATION

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

This bill modifies provisions related to the determination of school enrollment.

Code section 257.6(1)(a) provides that each school district's actual enrollment is determined annually on October 1, or the first Monday in October if October 1 falls on a Saturday or Sunday. The bill amends methodology for determining the actual enrollment each year. Under the bill, actual enrollment is determined annually by calculating the average of the count on October 1, or the first Monday in October if October 1 falls on a Saturday or Sunday, and the count on March 1 immediately succeeding the October determination, or the succeeding Monday if March 1 falls on a Saturday or Sunday.

The bill makes similar changes to the provisions of Code section 257.6 governing the calculation of each school district's additional enrollment because of special education and each school district's pupils added due to application of supplementary weighting, by requiring an average of such amounts determined on two specified dates.

The bill makes corresponding changes to other provisions of law.

The bill takes effect upon enactment and applies to actual enrollment determinations for school budget years beginning on or after the effective date of the bill.