

REFERENCE TITLE: common school districts; unification; budget

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Fifty-fifth Legislature
Second Regular Session
2022

HB 2672

Introduced by
Representatives Osborne: Dunn, Udall, Senator Kerr

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 15-951, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; AMENDING SECTION 15-951, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, AS AMENDED BY THIS ACT; RELATING TO SCHOOL FINANCE.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Section 15-951, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
3 read:

4 15-951. District additional assistance, district support
5 level and student count for a common school
6 district not within a high school district

7 A. Notwithstanding section 15-947, the revenue control limit for a
8 common school district not within a high school district is the sum of the
9 following:

10 1. The base revenue control limit computed as prescribed in section
11 15-944 but excluding pupils admitted to another school district as
12 provided in section 15-824, subsection A, paragraph 2.

13 2. The tuition payable for high school pupils who attend school in
14 another school district as provided in section 15-824, subsection A,
15 paragraph 2, including any transportation charge, except as provided in
16 subsection F of this section.

17 3. The transportation revenue control limit for all pupils who
18 reside in the district except those high school pupils transported by
19 another district.

20 B. Notwithstanding subsection A of this section, for the purposes
21 of sections 15-481, 15-482 and 15-1102, the revenue control limit for a
22 common school district not within a high school district is the sum of the
23 following:

24 1. The base revenue control limit for pupils computed as prescribed
25 in section 15-944 but excluding pupils admitted to another school district
26 as provided in section 15-824, subsection A, paragraph 2.

27 2. The transportation revenue control limit for all pupils who
28 reside in the district except those high school pupils transported by
29 another district.

30 C. Notwithstanding section 15-961, district additional assistance
31 for a common school district not within a high school district is district
32 additional assistance as prescribed in section 15-961 but excluding pupils
33 who are admitted to another school district as provided in section 15-824,
34 subsection A, paragraph 2, except that if the school district transports
35 high school pupils, the district additional assistance amount prescribed
36 in section 15-961 shall be increased by an amount equal to fifty percent
37 of the district additional assistance per pupil amount prescribed for the
38 school district pursuant to section 15-961 multiplied by the number of
39 high school pupils transported.

40 D. Notwithstanding section 15-947, the district support level for a
41 common school district not within a high school district is the sum of the
42 following:

43 1. The base support level computed as prescribed in section 15-943
44 but excluding pupils who are admitted to another school district as
45 provided in section 15-824, subsection A, paragraph 2.

1 2. The tuition payable for high school pupils who are admitted to
2 another school district as provided in section 15-824, subsection A,
3 paragraph 2, including any transportation charge, except as provided in
4 subsection F of this section.

5 3. The transportation support level for all pupils who reside in
6 the school district except those high school pupils transported by another
7 school district.

8 E. For the purpose of determining eligibility to increase the
9 revenue control limit and district support level, the student count for a
10 common school district not within a high school district is the student
11 count for pupils in kindergarten programs and grades one through twelve,
12 including pupils enrolled in another school district as provided in
13 section 15-824, subsection A, paragraph 2.

14 F. The tuition amount in subsections A and D of this section shall
15 not include amounts per student count for bond issues as prescribed by
16 section 15-824, subsection G, paragraph 1, subdivision (c) in excess of
17 the following:

18 1. \$150 if the pupil's school district of residence pays tuition
19 for seven hundred fifty or fewer pupils to other school districts.

20 2. \$200 if the pupil's school district of residence pays tuition
21 for one thousand or fewer, but more than seven hundred fifty pupils to
22 other school districts.

23 3. The actual cost per student count if the pupil's school district
24 of residence pays tuition for more than one thousand pupils to other
25 school districts.

26 G. A common school district that is not within the boundaries of a
27 high school district and that was authorized by the qualified electors to
28 establish a unified school district with boundaries coterminous with the
29 boundaries of the common school district may continue calculating its
30 budget and equalization assistance pursuant to this section ~~for fifteen~~
31 ~~years after the election or~~ until a high school is built, ~~whichever occurs~~
32 ~~first.~~

33 H. A newly formed unified school district that meets the
34 requirements of subsection G of this section and that phases in
35 instruction for pupils in grades nine through twelve may continue
36 calculating its budget and equalization assistance pursuant to this
37 section for a maximum of five years after the first year of the operation
38 of the new high school in the newly formed unified school district.

39 I. Notwithstanding any other law, a school district may
40 retroactively adjust its budget for fiscal year 2020-2021 OR 2021-2022
41 pursuant to subsection G or H of this section but may not retroactively
42 adjust its budget for any other fiscal year pursuant to subsection G or H
43 of this section.

1 Sec. 2. Section 15-951, Arizona Revised Statutes, as amended by
2 section 1 of this act, is amended to read:

3 15-951. District additional assistance, district support
4 level and student count for a common school
5 district not within a high school district

6 A. Notwithstanding section 15-947, the revenue control limit for a
7 common school district not within a high school district is the sum of the
8 following:

9 1. The base revenue control limit computed as prescribed in section
10 15-944 but excluding pupils admitted to another school district as
11 provided in section 15-824, subsection A, paragraph 2.

12 2. The tuition payable for high school pupils who attend school in
13 another school district as provided in section 15-824, subsection A,
14 paragraph 2, including any transportation charge, except as provided in
15 subsection F of this section.

16 3. The transportation revenue control limit for all pupils who
17 reside in the district except those high school pupils transported by
18 another district.

19 B. Notwithstanding subsection A of this section, for the purposes
20 of sections 15-481, 15-482 and 15-1102, the revenue control limit for a
21 common school district not within a high school district is the sum of the
22 following:

23 1. The base revenue control limit for pupils computed as prescribed
24 in section 15-944 but excluding pupils admitted to another school district
25 as provided in section 15-824, subsection A, paragraph 2.

26 2. The transportation revenue control limit for all pupils who
27 reside in the district except those high school pupils transported by
28 another district.

29 C. Notwithstanding section 15-961, district additional assistance
30 for a common school district not within a high school district is district
31 additional assistance as prescribed in section 15-961 but excluding pupils
32 who are admitted to another school district as provided in section 15-824,
33 subsection A, paragraph 2, except that if the school district transports
34 high school pupils, the district additional assistance amount prescribed
35 in section 15-961 shall be increased by an amount equal to fifty percent
36 of the district additional assistance per pupil amount prescribed for the
37 school district pursuant to section 15-961 multiplied by the number of
38 high school pupils transported.

39 D. Notwithstanding section 15-947, the district support level for a
40 common school district not within a high school district is the sum of the
41 following:

42 1. The base support level computed as prescribed in section 15-943
43 but excluding pupils who are admitted to another school district as
44 provided in section 15-824, subsection A, paragraph 2.

1 2. The tuition payable for high school pupils who are admitted to
2 another school district as provided in section 15-824, subsection A,
3 paragraph 2, including any transportation charge, except as provided in
4 subsection F of this section.

5 3. The transportation support level for all pupils who reside in
6 the school district except those high school pupils transported by another
7 school district.

8 E. For the purpose of determining eligibility to increase the
9 revenue control limit and district support level, the student count for a
10 common school district not within a high school district is the student
11 count for pupils in kindergarten programs and grades one through twelve,
12 including pupils enrolled in another school district as provided in
13 section 15-824, subsection A, paragraph 2.

14 F. The tuition amount in subsections A and D of this section shall
15 not include amounts per student count for bond issues as prescribed by
16 section 15-824, subsection G, paragraph 1, subdivision (c) in excess of
17 the following:

18 1. \$150 if the pupil's school district of residence pays tuition
19 for seven hundred fifty or fewer pupils to other school districts.

20 2. \$200 if the pupil's school district of residence pays tuition
21 for one thousand or fewer, but more than seven hundred fifty pupils to
22 other school districts.

23 3. The actual cost per student count if the pupil's school district
24 of residence pays tuition for more than one thousand pupils to other
25 school districts.

26 ~~G. A common school district that is not within the boundaries of a
27 high school district and that was authorized by the qualified electors to
28 establish a unified school district with boundaries coterminous with the
29 boundaries of the common school district may continue calculating its
30 budget and equalization assistance pursuant to this section until a high
31 school is built.~~

32 ~~H. A newly formed unified school district that meets the
33 requirements of subsection G of this section and that phases in
34 instruction for pupils in grades nine through twelve may continue
35 calculating its budget and equalization assistance pursuant to this
36 section for a maximum of five years after the first year of the operation
37 of the new high school in the newly formed unified school district.~~

38 ~~I. Notwithstanding any other law, a school district may
39 retroactively adjust its budget for fiscal year 2020-2021 or 2021-2022
40 pursuant to subsection G or H of this section but may not retroactively
41 adjust its budget for any other fiscal year pursuant to subsection G or H
42 of this section.~~

43 Sec. 3. Effective date

44 Section 15-951, Arizona Revised Statutes, as amended by section 2 of
45 this act, is effective from and after June 30, 2023.