

State of Arizona
Senate
Fiftieth Legislature
First Regular Session
2011

SENATE BILL 1303

AN ACT

AMENDING TITLE 15, CHAPTER 9, ARTICLE 1, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING SECTION 15-901.06; 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. Title 15, chapter 9, article 1, Arizona Revised Statutes,
3 is amended by adding section 15-901.06, to read:

4 15-901.06. Dropout recovery programs: fund; written learning
5 plan; requirements

6 A. EACH SCHOOL DISTRICT AND CHARTER SCHOOL THAT PROVIDES INSTRUCTION
7 TO HIGH SCHOOL PUPILS, INCLUDING SCHOOLS THAT PROVIDE ARIZONA ONLINE
8 INSTRUCTION, MAY OFFER A DROPOUT RECOVERY PROGRAM.

9 B. THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION SHALL PRESCRIBE STANDARDS AND
10 ACHIEVEMENT TESTING REQUIREMENTS FOR DROPOUT RECOVERY PROGRAMS THAT ATTEMPT
11 TO ENSURE THAT THE PROGRAMS ARE COMPATIBLE WITH PUBLIC SCHOOL EDUCATION GOALS
12 AND REQUIREMENTS.

13 C. THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL MAY ESTABLISH A DROPOUT
14 RECOVERY FUND TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THE PROGRAM. THE SCHOOL
15 DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL MAY CLAIM UP TO 1.0 AVERAGE DAILY MEMBERSHIP
16 THROUGH THE STATE EQUALIZATION FUNDING FORMULA FOR EACH PUPIL PARTICIPATING
17 IN THE DROPOUT RECOVERY PROGRAM ON A FULL-TIME BASIS. THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR
18 CHARTER SCHOOL MAY CLAIM UP TO 1.0 AVERAGE DAILY MEMBERSHIP THROUGH THE STATE
19 EQUALIZATION FUNDING FORMULA FOR EACH PUPIL WHO ATTENDS BOTH THAT SCHOOL
20 DISTRICT'S DROPOUT RECOVERY PROGRAM AND ANOTHER SCHOOL DISTRICT'S DROPOUT
21 RECOVERY PROGRAM DURING THE SAME FISCAL YEAR. THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER
22 SCHOOL MAY CLAIM A PROPORTIONATELY REDUCED AVERAGE DAILY MEMBERSHIP THROUGH
23 THE STATE EQUALIZATION FUNDING FORMULA FOR EACH PUPIL PARTICIPATING IN THE
24 DROPOUT RECOVERY PROGRAM ON A LESS THAN FULL-TIME BASIS. THE AVERAGE DAILY
25 MEMBERSHIP FOR EACH PARTICIPATING PUPIL SHALL BE DISTRIBUTED IN ACCORDANCE
26 WITH THE APPORTIONMENT SCHEDULE PRESCRIBED IN SECTION 15-973. THE SCHOOL
27 DISTRICT SHALL DEPOSIT THESE PAYMENTS INTO THE DROPOUT RECOVERY FUND.

28 D. EACH PUPIL MUST HAVE A WRITTEN LEARNING PLAN, DEVELOPED BY THE
29 PUPIL'S ASSIGNED MENTOR. THE WRITTEN LEARNING PLAN MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING
30 ELEMENTS:

- 31 1. THE START DATE AND ANTICIPATED END DATE OF THE PLAN.
- 32 2. COURSES TO BE COMPLETED BY THE PUPIL DURING THE ACADEMIC YEAR.
- 33 3. WHETHER COURSES WILL BE TAKEN SEQUENTIALLY OR CONCURRENTLY.
- 34 4. STATE COMPETENCY EXAMS TO BE TAKEN, AS NECESSARY.
- 35 5. EXPECTATIONS FOR SATISFACTORY MONTHLY PROGRESS.
- 36 6. EXPECTATIONS FOR CONTACT WITH THE PUPIL'S ASSIGNED MENTOR.

37 E. THE MONTHLY PARTICIPATION IN A SCHOOL DISTRICT'S DROPOUT RECOVERY
38 PROGRAM SHALL BE REPORTED ON OR BEFORE THE TENTH SCHOOL DAY OF EACH MONTH.
39 MONTHLY PARTICIPATION CALCULATIONS SHALL INCLUDE:

- 40 1. NEWLY ENROLLED PUPILS WHO HAVE A WRITTEN LEARNING PLAN ON FILE ON
41 OR BEFORE THE FIRST SCHOOL DAY OF THE PREVIOUS MONTH.
- 42 2. PUPILS WHO MET THE EXPECTATIONS FOR SATISFACTORY MONTHLY PROGRESS
43 IN THE PREVIOUS MONTH.

1 3. PUPILS WHO DID NOT MEET THE EXPECTATIONS FOR SATISFACTORY MONTHLY
2 PROGRESS IN THE PREVIOUS MONTH BUT DID MEET THE EXPECTATIONS IN THE MONTH
3 BEFORE THE PREVIOUS MONTH.

4 4. PUPILS WHO MET EXPECTATIONS FOR PROGRAM REENTRY IN THE REVISED
5 WRITTEN LEARNING PLAN IN THE PREVIOUS MONTH.

6 F. PUPILS WHO DO NOT MEET EXPECTATIONS FOR MONTHLY PROGRESS FOR TWO OR
7 MORE CONSECUTIVE MONTHS SHALL NOT BE REPORTED FOR FUNDING UNTIL THE PUPIL
8 MEETS THE EXPECTATIONS FOR PROGRAM REENTRY.

9 G. BECAUSE DROPOUT RECOVERY PUPILS ARE NOT EXPECTED TO REGULARLY
10 ATTEND CLASSES AT THE DISTRICT FACILITIES, STANDARD PROCEDURES FOR RECORDING
11 PUPIL ATTENDANCE CANNOT BE EFFECTIVELY APPLIED TO THOSE STUDENTS. FOR PUPILS
12 PARTICIPATING IN THE DISTRICT'S DROPOUT RECOVERY PROGRAM, PUPILS SHALL BE
13 COUNTED AS IN FULL ATTENDANCE IF EITHER:

14 1. A NEWLY ENROLLED PUPIL COMPLETES THE PROGRAM ORIENTATION.

15 2. A PUPIL MEETS THE EXPECTATIONS FOR SATISFACTORY MONTHLY PROGRESS
16 FOR THE MONTH.

17 3. A PUPIL MEETS THE EXPECTATIONS FOR PROGRAM REENTRY IN THE REVISED
18 WRITTEN LEARNING PLAN.

19 H. PUPILS MUST BE ENROLLED IN TEACHER-FACILITATED COURSES IN ORDER FOR
20 THE COURSE TO COUNT TOWARD FUNDING CALCULATIONS.

21 I. SCHOOL DISTRICTS SHALL PROVIDE CURRICULUM ALIGNED TO THE ACADEMIC
22 STANDARDS ADOPTED BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION. CURRICULUM MAY BE
23 DELIVERED ONLINE.

24 J. SCHOOL DISTRICTS SHALL ENSURE THAT DROPOUT RECOVERY PROGRAMS
25 PROVIDE STANDARDIZED TESTS REQUIRED BY LAW.

26 K. DROPOUT RECOVERY PROGRAMS MUST MAKE AVAILABLE APPROPRIATE AND
27 SUFFICIENT SUPPORTS FOR PUPILS, INCLUDING TUTORING, CAREER COUNSELING AND
28 COLLEGE COUNSELING.

29 L. THE SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD SHALL ENSURE THAT THE DROPOUT
30 RECOVERY PROGRAM IMPLEMENTED BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICT COMPLIES WITH FEDERAL AND
31 STATE LAWS GOVERNING SPECIAL EDUCATION PUPILS AND PUPILS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS.

32 M. SCHOOL DISTRICTS SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR TUITION CHARGES AND FEES
33 RELATED TO PUPIL PARTICIPATION IN THE PROGRAM, INCLUDING COURSE MATERIALS AND
34 ACCESS TO TECHNOLOGY FOR USE WITH ONLINE COURSES.

35 N. SCHOOL DISTRICTS MAY CONTRACT WITH AN EDUCATIONAL MANAGEMENT
36 ORGANIZATION TO PROVIDE A DROPOUT RECOVERY PROGRAM. IF CONTRACTING WITH AN
37 EDUCATIONAL MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION, THE SCHOOL DISTRICT SHALL ENSURE THAT
38 ALL OF THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS ARE MET:

39 1. THE EDUCATIONAL MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION IS ACCREDITED BY A REGIONAL
40 ACCREDITING BODY.

41 2. TEACHERS PROVIDED BY THE EDUCATIONAL MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION HOLD A
42 CURRENT TEACHING LICENSE, AND TEACHERS OF CORE SUBJECTS ARE HIGHLY QUALIFIED
43 IN THE SUBJECTS TO WHICH THEY ARE ASSIGNED.

1 3. ALL DROPOUT RECOVERY PROGRAMS PROVIDED BY THE EDUCATION MANAGEMENT
2 ORGANIZATION MEET STATE AND LOCAL REQUIREMENTS FOR OBTAINING A DIPLOMA FROM
3 THE SCHOOL DISTRICT.

4 0. ATTENDANCE, GRADUATION AND TEST SCORES FROM THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S
5 DROPOUT RECOVERY PROGRAM SHALL BE REPORTED FOR THE SCHOOL DISTRICT BUT SHALL
6 NOT ADVERSELY AFFECT THE DISTRICT'S ANNUAL REPORT CARD OR AVERAGE YEARLY
7 PROGRESS MEASUREMENTS.