

HOUSE FLOOR AMENDMENT EXPLANATION



Bill Number: **SB 1332**

Boyer Floor Amendment

As passed by the Committee on Education, SB 1332 expands the definition of *qualifying student* under the Empowerment Scholarship Account Program to include a child residing within an Indian Reservation.

Your 3-page Floor Amendment to SB 1332 makes the following changes:

- Establishes the 11-member Empowerment Scholarship Account Special Education Study Committee (Committee).
- Outlines the powers and authorities of the Committee.
- Requires the Committee to submit a report regarding its recommendations and findings to the Governor, Speaker of the House of Representatives, President of the Senate, Superintendent of Public Instruction and the Secretary of State by January 1, 2016.
- Repeals the Committee on October 1, 2016.

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03/25/2015

BOYER FLOOR AMENDMENT

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AMENDMENTS TO S.B. 1332

(Reference to Senate engrossed bill)

1 Page 2, after line 36, insert:

2 "Sec. 2. Empowerment scholarship account special education
3 study committee; membership; powers and duties;
4 report; definition; delayed repeal

5 A. The empowerment scholarship account special education study
6 committee is established consisting of the following members:

7 1. Two members of the house of representatives who are appointed by
8 the speaker of the house of representatives and who are members of different
9 political parties.

10 2. Two members of the senate who are appointed by the president of the
11 senate and who are members of different political parties.

12 3. Two members who currently work as special education teachers, one
13 of whom is from a county with a population of at least one million two
14 hundred thousand persons and who is appointed by the speaker of the house of
15 representatives and one of whom is from a county with a population of less
16 than one million two hundred thousand persons and who is appointed by the
17 president of the senate.

18 4. Two public school psychologists, one of whom is from a county with
19 a population of at least one million two hundred thousand persons and who is
20 appointed by the president of the senate and one of whom is from a county
21 with a population of less than one million two hundred thousand persons and
22 who is appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives.

23 5. Two parents of current empowerment scholarship account recipients.

24 6. The superintendent of public instruction or the superintendent's
25 designee.

26 B. The president of the senate and the speaker of the house of
27 representatives shall each designate one of the legislative members to serve

1 as a cochairperson of the committee. The cochairpersons shall be members of
2 different political parties.

3 C. The empowerment scholarship account special education study
4 committee shall:

5 1. Identify, examine and evaluate the needs of qualified students who
6 receive an empowerment scholarship account.

7 2. Review the funding levels, process, duration and execution of and
8 the authority by which qualified students receive special education services
9 through the empowerment scholarship account program pursuant to section
10 15-2402, Arizona Revised Statutes.

11 3. Research and evaluate the differences between receiving special
12 education services through a public or charter school and the empowerment
13 scholarship account program.

14 4. Provide analyses and recommendations to improve delivery of special
15 education services to qualified students.

16 5. Examine whether a child with special needs who receives an
17 empowerment scholarship account monies should be allowed to continue to
18 receive monies allocated pursuant to title 15, chapter 19, Arizona Revised
19 Statutes, until the child reaches twenty-two years of age if the child's
20 individualized education program team determines that the child is likely to
21 graduate from high school by the time the child reaches twenty-two years of
22 age.

23 D. The empowerment scholarship account special education study
24 committee may:

25 1. Request information, data and reports from any county or state
26 agency or political subdivision of this state. If possible, information
27 shall be provided electronically.

28 2. Hold hearings and take testimony from stakeholders who may assist
29 the committee in fulfilling its responsibilities.

30 E. On the request of the empowerment scholarship account special
31 education study committee, an agency of this state shall provide to the

1 committee its services, equipment, documents, personnel and facilities to the
2 extent possible without cost to the committee.

3 F. The legislature and the department of education shall provide staff
4 and support services to the study committee.

5 G. All meetings of the study committee shall be open to the public.

6 H. Members of the study committee are not eligible to receive
7 compensation but are eligible for reimbursement of expenses pursuant to title
8 38, chapter 4, article 2, Arizona Revised Statutes.

9 I. On or before December 31, 2015, the study committee shall submit a
10 report regarding its findings and recommendations to the governor, the
11 speaker of the house of representatives, the president of the senate and the
12 superintendent of public instruction and shall provide a copy of the report
13 to the secretary of state.

14 J. For the purpose of this section, "qualified student" means a
15 student who received a scholarship pursuant to section 15-2401, paragraph 6,
16 subdivision (a), item (i), (ii) or (iii), Arizona Revised Statutes.

17 K. This section is repealed from and after September 30, 2016."

18 Amend title to conform

PAUL BOYER

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