

REFERENCE TITLE: **schools; class size reduction grants**

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Fifty-second Legislature
First Regular Session
2015

HB 2199

Introduced by
Representatives Sherwood: Mendez

AN ACT

AMENDING TITLE 15, CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE 1, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING SECTION 15-219; RELATING TO THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

(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 2, article 1, Arizona Revised Statutes,
3 is amended by adding section 15-219, to read:

4 15-219. Class size reduction and teacher retention program:
5 grants; appropriation; annual report; program
6 termination

7 A. THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION SHALL ESTABLISH A CLASS SIZE REDUCTION
8 AND TEACHER RETENTION PROGRAM TO REDUCE CLASS SIZES TO BETWEEN FIFTEEN AND
9 TWENTY-TWO PUPILS PER CLASSROOM IN KINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS AND GRADES ONE, TWO
10 AND THREE IN PARTICIPATING SCHOOL DISTRICTS.

11 B. THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION SHALL ADOPT RULES TO PRESCRIBE
12 APPLICATION AND ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHOOL DISTRICTS THAT WISH TO
13 PARTICIPATE IN THE CLASS SIZE REDUCTION AND TEACHER RETENTION PROGRAM.
14 SCHOOL DISTRICTS THAT WISH TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FIRST YEAR OF THE PROGRAM
15 SHALL SUBMIT APPLICATIONS TO THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION BEGINNING IN THE
16 2016-2017 ACADEMIC YEAR. THE APPLICATION AND ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS SHALL
17 REQUIRE A SCHOOL DISTRICT TO INCLUDE IN ITS APPLICATION A DETAILED
18 DESCRIPTION OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S CLASS SIZE REDUCTION AND TEACHER
19 RETENTION PLAN AND THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S PROPOSED USE OF GRANT MONIES AWARDED
20 PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION. THE APPLICATION AND ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS MAY
21 REQUIRE SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO INCLUDE ANY OR ALL OF THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

22 1. THE NUMBER OF CERTIFICATED TEACHERS WHO ARE EMPLOYED BY THE SCHOOL
23 DISTRICT AND WHO PROVIDE CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION TO PUPILS IN KINDERGARTEN
24 PROGRAMS AND GRADES ONE, TWO AND THREE.

25 2. THE PERCENTAGE OF PUPILS WHO ARE ENROLLED IN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT
26 AND WHO MEET THE ECONOMIC ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED UNDER THE
27 NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH AND CHILD NUTRITION ACTS (42 UNITED STATES CODE
28 SECTIONS 1751 THROUGH 1785) FOR FREE OR REDUCED-PRICE LUNCHES.

29 3. THE PROPOSED SCHOOL SITES WHERE THE PROGRAM WILL BE IMPLEMENTED.

30 C. BEGINNING IN FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018, THE SUM OF ONE MILLION DOLLARS
31 IS APPROPRIATED FROM THE STATE GENERAL FUND EACH FISCAL YEAR TO THE
32 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO DISTRIBUTE IN THE FORM OF GRANTS TO SCHOOL
33 DISTRICTS THAT ARE SELECTED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM. A SCHOOL DISTRICT
34 THAT PARTICIPATES IN THE PROGRAM MAY NOT RECEIVE MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED
35 THOUSAND DOLLARS IN ANY FISCAL YEAR FROM GRANTS AWARDED PURSUANT TO THIS
36 SUBSECTION.

37 D. THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION SHALL SUBMIT AN ANNUAL REPORT ON OR
38 BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1 THAT SUMMARIZES THE ACADEMIC RESULTS OF PUPILS IN SCHOOL
39 DISTRICTS THAT PARTICIPATE IN THE CLASS SIZE REDUCTION AND TEACHER RETENTION
40 PROGRAM TO THE GOVERNOR, THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THE
41 PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE CHAIRPERSONS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
42 AND SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEES AND SHALL PROVIDE A COPY OF THIS REPORT TO
43 THE SECRETARY OF STATE. THE ANNUAL REPORT SHALL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING
44 INFORMATION:

- 1 1. THE NUMBER OF YEARS EACH PARTICIPATING SCHOOL DISTRICT HAS
2 PARTICIPATED IN THE PROGRAM AND A DETAILED ACCOUNTING OF MONIES USED FOR THIS
3 PURPOSE.
- 4 2. A LISTING OF THE GRADE LEVELS THAT PARTICIPATED IN THE PROGRAM.
- 5 3. A DESCRIPTION OF THE SUCCESS OF AND TEACHER SATISFACTION WITH THE
6 PROGRAM.
- 7 4. MECHANISMS TO TRACK THE RETENTION RATE OF TEACHERS WHO ARE EMPLOYED
8 IN SCHOOL DISTRICTS THAT PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM.
- 9 5. A DESCRIPTION OF CHANGES ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE PROGRAM, SUCH AS
10 DISCIPLINARY IMPROVEMENT, GRADUATION RATE INCREASES, DROPOUT DECREASES AND
11 ACADEMIC GAINS.
- 12 E. THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION SHALL INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL REPORT
13 SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION D OF THIS SECTION IN 2021 A COMPREHENSIVE
14 SUMMARY OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE CLASS SIZE REDUCTION AND TEACHER
15 RETENTION PROGRAM AND A RECOMMENDATION TO EITHER CONTINUE OR DISCONTINUE THE
16 PROGRAM AFTER 2022.
- 17 F. SCHOOL DISTRICTS MAY NOT USE MONIES RECEIVED PURSUANT TO THIS
18 SECTION TO DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY FUND ANY CAPITAL PROJECT.
- 19 G. THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MAY ALLOCATE UP TO THREE PERCENT OF
20 THE MONIES THAT WOULD OTHERWISE BE USED FOR GRANTS PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION C
21 OF THIS SECTION TO THE ARIZONA BOARD OF REGENTS FOR DISTRIBUTION TO ONE OR
22 MORE OF THE UNIVERSITIES UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE ARIZONA BOARD OF
23 REGENTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF ASSISTING THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION IN
24 DEVELOPING ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRACKING MEASURES FOR SCHOOL DISTRICTS THAT
25 PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM.
- 26 H. THE PROGRAM ESTABLISHED BY THIS SECTION ENDS ON JANUARY 1, 2023
27 PURSUANT TO SECTION 41-3102.