

State of Arizona  
Senate  
Fifty-third Legislature  
Second Regular Session  
2018

# SENATE BILL 1161

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 15-779.03, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; APPROPRIATING  
MONIES; RELATING TO GIFTED EDUCATION FOR GIFTED CHILDREN.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

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

2 Section 1. Section 15-779.03, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended  
3 to read:

4 15-779.03. Additional assistance for gifted programs

5 A. School districts that comply with section 15-779.01 and that  
6 submit evidence that all district teachers who have primary responsibility  
7 for teaching gifted pupils have obtained or are working toward obtaining  
8 the appropriate certification endorsement as required by the state board  
9 of education may apply to the department of education for additional  
10 funding for gifted programs equal to seventy-five dollars per pupil for  
11 four per cent of the district's student count, or two thousand dollars,  
12 whichever is more. As an alternate to the individual district application  
13 process, a governing board may request that a county school superintendent  
14 apply on its behalf as part of an educational consortium. The consortium  
15 may include school districts in more than one county. If additional  
16 monies are available after funding all eligible school districts or  
17 educational consortia, the additional monies shall be used to increase the  
18 per pupil amount for each district or educational consortium funded. If  
19 sufficient monies are not available to meet all requests, the state board  
20 of education shall determine the allocation of monies based on the  
21 comprehensiveness across grade levels, appropriateness to the population  
22 being served, utility and demonstrated effectiveness of the scope and  
23 sequence and the likelihood of the school district's or educational  
24 consortium's proposed program successfully meeting the needs of the gifted  
25 pupils. A school district shall include the monies it receives for gifted  
26 programs and services under this section in the special projects section  
27 of the budget.

28 B. School districts shall conduct evaluation studies of their  
29 programs for the gifted and submit information to the department of  
30 education regarding the results of their studies. The department shall  
31 develop evaluation guidelines, reporting forms, procedures and timelines.

32 C. Monies distributed pursuant to this section shall supplement and  
33 not supplant monies from other sources.

34 D. IN ADDITION TO OTHER MONIES APPROPRIATED FOR THIS PURPOSE IN  
35 FISCAL YEAR 2018-2019, \$2,900,000 SHALL BE APPROPRIATED FROM THE GENERAL  
36 FUND TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FOR ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR GIFTED  
37 PROGRAMS IN FISCAL YEAR 2018-2019 AND \$3,400,000 SHALL BE APPROPRIATED  
38 FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FOR ADDITIONAL  
39 ASSISTANCE FOR GIFTED PROGRAMS EVERY YEAR THEREAFTER.

1           Sec. 2. Appropriation; department of education; additional  
2                     assistance for gifted education programs;  
3                     assessment grants; exemption

4           A. In addition to other monies appropriated for this purpose in  
5 fiscal year 2018-2019, the sum of \$500,000 is appropriated from the state  
6 general fund in fiscal year 2018-2019 to the department of education to be  
7 used for additional assistance for gifted programs pursuant to section  
8 15-779.03, Arizona Revised Statutes.

9           B. The appropriation made in subsection A of this section is exempt  
10 from the provisions of section 35-190, Arizona Revised Statutes, relating  
11 to lapsing of appropriations.