

REFERENCE TITLE: schools; special education weights; funding

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Fifty-fourth Legislature
Second Regular Session
2020

HB 2514

Introduced by
Representatives Lieberman: Blanc, Butler, Cano, Chávez, Longdon, Senators
Alston, Bradley

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTIONS 15-779, 15-779.02, 15-901 AND 15-943, ARIZONA REVISED
STATUTES; APPROPRIATING MONIES; 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 15-779, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
3 read:

4 15-779. Definitions

5 In this article, unless the context otherwise requires:

6 1. "ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED PUPIL" MEANS A PUPIL WHO MEETS THE
7 ECONOMIC ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED UNDER THE NATIONAL SCHOOL
8 LUNCH AND CHILD NUTRITION ACTS (42 UNITED STATES CODE SECTIONS 1751
9 THROUGH 1785) FOR FREE OR REDUCED-PRICE LUNCHES.

10 ~~1.~~ 2. "Gifted education" means appropriate academic course
11 offerings and services that are required to provide an educational program
12 that is an integral part of the regular school day and that is
13 commensurate with the academic abilities and potential of a gifted pupil.

14 ~~2.~~ 3. "Gifted pupil":

15 (a) Means a child who is of lawful school age, who due to superior
16 intellect or advanced learning ability, or both, is not afforded an
17 opportunity for otherwise attainable progress and development in regular
18 classroom instruction and who needs appropriate gifted education
19 services, ~~to~~ to achieve at levels commensurate with the child's intellect
20 and ability.

21 (b) INCLUDES AN ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED PUPIL OR A MINORITY
22 PUPIL WHO HAS BEEN UNDERREPRESENTED IN GIFTED EDUCATION PROGRAMS.

23 Sec. 2. Section 15-779.02, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
24 read:

25 15-779.02. Gifted pupils; scope and sequence; annual
26 financial report

27 A. The governing board of each school district shall develop a
28 scope and sequence for the identification process of and curriculum
29 modifications for gifted pupils to ensure that gifted pupils receive
30 gifted education commensurate with their academic abilities and
31 potentials. Programs and services for gifted pupils shall be provided as
32 an integrated, differentiated learning experience during the regular
33 school day. The scope and ~~the~~ sequence shall:

34 1. Provide for routine screening for gifted pupils using one or
35 more tests adopted by the state board as prescribed in section 15-203,
36 subsection A, paragraph 15 and section 15-779.01. School districts may
37 identify any number of pupils as gifted but shall identify as gifted at
38 least those pupils who score at or above the ninety-seventh percentile,
39 based on national norms, on a test adopted by the state board of
40 education.

41 2. Include an explanation of how gifted education for gifted pupils
42 differs from regular education in such areas as:

43 (a) Content, including a ~~broad based~~ BROAD-BASED interdisciplinary
44 curriculum.

45 (b) Process, including ~~higher-level~~ HIGHER-LEVEL thinking skills.

1 (c) Product, including variety and complexity.

2 (d) Learning environment, including flexibility.

3 3. Include criteria, which shall be reviewed by the state board of
4 education and the department of education at least once every four years,
5 that address the elements of program design, identification, curriculum,
6 instruction, social development, emotional development, professional
7 development of administrators, teachers, school psychologists and
8 counselors, parent involvement, community involvement, program assessment
9 and budgeting. The budget information shall include separate data on
10 identification and program costs and any other data required by the
11 superintendent of public instruction to administer and evaluate the
12 program effectively.

13 B. The governing board shall submit the scope and ~~the~~ sequence to
14 the department of education for approval on or before July 1 if any
15 changes were made during the previous fiscal year. The governing board
16 shall submit the scope and ~~the~~ sequence to the department of education for
17 approval on or before July 1 every five years if no changes were made
18 during the previous five years. All school districts shall provide to
19 gifted pupils gifted education commensurate with their academic abilities
20 and potentials.

21 C. If the governing board fails to submit the scope and sequence
22 for gifted pupils as prescribed in subsection B of this section or if the
23 scope and sequence submitted by the governing board fails to receive full
24 approval by the superintendent of public instruction, the school district
25 is not eligible to receive state aid for the group ~~A~~ B weight for ~~seven~~
26 ~~per cent of the student count~~ GIFTED PUPILS and shall compute the weighted
27 student count for pupils in group ~~A~~ B as provided in section 15-943 by
28 ~~adjustment of~~ ADJUSTING the student count accordingly. On or before
29 December 1 of each year, the department of education shall notify those
30 school districts that appear to be in noncompliance and note the specific
31 areas of deficiencies that must be corrected on or before April 1 of the
32 following year to be eligible to use the actual student count rather than
33 an adjusted student count. On or before April 15 of each year, the
34 department shall notify those districts that must use an adjusted student
35 count for the next fiscal year's state aid as provided in chapter 9 of
36 this title.

37 D. The annual financial report of a school district as prescribed
38 in section 15-904 shall include the amount of monies spent on programs for
39 gifted pupils and the number of pupils enrolled in programs or receiving
40 services by grade level.

41 Sec. 3. Section 15-901, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
42 read:

43 15-901. Definitions

44 A. In this title, unless the context otherwise requires:

1 1. "Average daily membership" means the total enrollment of
 2 fractional students and full-time students, minus withdrawals, of each
 3 school day through the first one hundred days or two hundred days in
 4 session, as applicable, for the current year. Withdrawals include
 5 students who are formally withdrawn from schools and students who are
 6 absent for ten consecutive school days, except for excused absences
 7 identified by the department of education. For the purposes of this
 8 section, school districts and charter schools shall report student absence
 9 data to the department of education at least once every sixty days in
 10 session. For computation purposes, the effective date of withdrawal shall
 11 be retroactive to the last day of actual attendance of the student or
 12 excused absence.

13 (a) "Fractional student" means:

14 (i) For common schools, a preschool child who is enrolled in a
 15 program for preschool children with disabilities of at least three hundred
 16 sixty minutes each week that meets at least two hundred sixteen hours over
 17 the minimum number of days or a kindergarten student who is at least five
 18 years of age before January 1 of the school year and enrolled in a school
 19 kindergarten program that meets at least three hundred fifty-six hours for
 20 a one hundred eighty-day school year, or the instructional hours
 21 prescribed in this section. In computing the average daily membership,
 22 preschool children with disabilities and kindergarten students shall be
 23 counted as one-half of a full-time student. For common schools, a
 24 part-time student is a student enrolled for less than the total time for a
 25 full-time student as defined in this section. A part-time common school
 26 student shall be counted as one-fourth, one-half or three-fourths of a
 27 full-time student if the student is enrolled in an instructional program
 28 that is at least one-fourth, one-half or three-fourths of the time a
 29 full-time student is enrolled as defined in subdivision (b) of this
 30 paragraph. The hours in which a student is scheduled to attend a common
 31 school during the regular school day shall be included in the calculation
 32 of the average daily membership for that student.

33 (ii) For high schools, a part-time student who is enrolled in less
 34 than four subjects that count toward graduation as defined by the state
 35 board of education, each of which, if taught each school day for the
 36 minimum number of days required in a school year, would meet a minimum of
 37 one hundred twenty-three hours a year, or the equivalent, in a recognized
 38 high school. The average daily membership of a part-time high school
 39 student shall be 0.75 if the student is enrolled in an instructional
 40 program of three subjects that meet at least five hundred forty hours for
 41 a one hundred eighty-day school year, or the instructional hours
 42 prescribed in this section. The average daily membership of a part-time
 43 high school student shall be 0.5 if the student is enrolled in an
 44 instructional program of two subjects that meet at least three hundred
 45 sixty hours for a one hundred eighty-day school year, or the instructional

1 hours prescribed in this section. The average daily membership of a
 2 part-time high school student shall be 0.25 if the student is enrolled in
 3 an instructional program of one subject that meets at least one hundred
 4 eighty hours for a one hundred eighty-day school year, or the
 5 instructional hours prescribed in this section. The hours in which a
 6 student is scheduled to attend a high school during the regular school day
 7 shall be included in the calculation of the average daily membership for
 8 that student.

9 (b) "Full-time student" means:

10 (i) For common schools, a student who is at least six years of age
 11 before January 1 of a school year, who has not graduated from the highest
 12 grade taught in the school district and who is regularly enrolled in a
 13 course of study required by the state board of education. First, second
 14 and third grade students or ungraded group B children with disabilities
 15 who are at least five, but under six, years of age by September 1 must be
 16 enrolled in an instructional program that meets for a total of at least
 17 seven hundred twelve hours for a one hundred eighty-day school year, or
 18 the instructional hours prescribed in this section. Fourth, fifth, sixth,
 19 seventh and eighth grade students must be enrolled in an instructional
 20 program that meets for a total of at least eight hundred ninety hours for
 21 a one hundred eighty-day school year, or the instructional hours
 22 prescribed in this section, including the equivalent number of
 23 instructional hours for schools that operate on a one hundred
 24 forty-four-day school year. The hours in which a student is scheduled to
 25 attend a common school during the regular school day shall be included in
 26 the calculation of the average daily membership for that student.

27 (ii) For high schools, a student who has not graduated from the
 28 highest grade taught in the school district and who is enrolled in at
 29 least an instructional program of four or more subjects that count toward
 30 graduation as defined by the state board of education, each of which, if
 31 taught each school day for the minimum number of days required in a school
 32 year, would meet a minimum of one hundred twenty-three hours a year, or
 33 the equivalent, that meets for a total of at least seven hundred twenty
 34 hours for a one hundred eighty-day school year, or the instructional hours
 35 prescribed in this section in a recognized high school. A full-time
 36 student shall not be counted more than once for computation of average
 37 daily membership. The average daily membership of a full-time high school
 38 student shall be 1.0 if the student is enrolled in at least four subjects
 39 that meet at least seven hundred twenty hours for a one hundred eighty-day
 40 school year, or the equivalent instructional hours prescribed in this
 41 section. The hours in which a student is scheduled to attend a high
 42 school during the regular school day shall be included in the calculation
 43 of the average daily membership for that student.

44 (iii) If a child who has not reached five years of age before
 45 September 1 of the current school year is admitted to kindergarten and

1 repeats kindergarten in the following school year, a school district or
2 charter school is not eligible to receive basic state aid on behalf of
3 that child during the child's second year of kindergarten. If a child who
4 has not reached five years of age before September 1 of the current school
5 year is admitted to kindergarten but does not remain enrolled, a school
6 district or charter school may receive a portion of basic state aid on
7 behalf of that child in the subsequent year. A school district or charter
8 school may charge tuition for any child who is ineligible for basic state
9 aid pursuant to this item.

10 (iv) Except as otherwise provided by law, for a full-time high
11 school student who is concurrently enrolled in two school districts or two
12 charter schools, the average daily membership shall not exceed 1.0.

13 (v) Except as otherwise provided by law, for any student who is
14 concurrently enrolled in a school district and a charter school, the
15 average daily membership shall be apportioned between the school district
16 and the charter school and shall not exceed 1.0. The apportionment shall
17 be based on the percentage of total time that the student is enrolled in
18 or in attendance at the school district and the charter school.

19 (vi) Except as otherwise provided by law, for any student who is
20 concurrently enrolled, pursuant to section 15-808, in a school district
21 and Arizona online instruction or a charter school and Arizona online
22 instruction, the average daily membership shall be apportioned between the
23 school district and Arizona online instruction or the charter school and
24 Arizona online instruction and shall not exceed 1.0. The apportionment
25 shall be based on the percentage of total time that the student is
26 enrolled in or in attendance at the school district and Arizona online
27 instruction or the charter school and Arizona online instruction.

28 (vii) For homebound or hospitalized, a student receiving at least
29 four hours of instruction per week.

30 (c) "Regular school day" means the regularly scheduled class
31 periods intended for instructional purposes. Instructional purposes may
32 include core subjects, elective subjects, lunch, study halls, music
33 instruction, and other classes that advance the academic instruction of
34 pupils, except that instructional purposes shall not include athletic
35 practices or extracurricular clubs and activities.

36 2. "Budget year" means the fiscal year for which the school
37 district is budgeting and that immediately follows the current year.

38 3. "Common school district" means a political subdivision of this
39 state offering instruction to students in programs for preschool children
40 with disabilities and kindergarten programs and either:

41 (a) Grades one through eight.

42 (b) Grades one through nine pursuant to section 15-447.01.

43 4. "Current year" means the fiscal year in which a school district
44 is operating.

45 5. "Daily attendance" means:

- 1 (a) For common schools, days in which a pupil:
2 (i) Of a kindergarten program or ungraded, but not group B children
3 with disabilities, who is at least five, but under six, years of age by
4 September 1 attends at least three-quarters of the instructional time
5 scheduled for the day. If the total instruction time scheduled for the
6 year is at least three hundred fifty-six hours but is less than seven
7 hundred twelve hours, such attendance shall be counted as one-half day of
8 attendance. If the instructional time scheduled for the year is at least
9 six hundred ninety-two hours, "daily attendance" means days in which a
10 pupil attends at least one-half of the instructional time scheduled for
11 the day. Such attendance shall be counted as one-half day of attendance.
12 (ii) Of the first, second or third grades attends more than
13 three-quarters of the instructional time scheduled for the day.
14 (iii) Of the fourth, fifth or sixth grades attends more than
15 three-quarters of the instructional time scheduled for the day, except as
16 provided in section 15-797.
17 (iv) Of the seventh or eighth grades attends more than
18 three-quarters of the instructional time scheduled for the day, except as
19 provided in section 15-797.
20 (b) For common schools, the attendance of a pupil at three-quarters
21 or less of the instructional time scheduled for the day shall be counted
22 as follows, except as provided in section 15-797 and except that
23 attendance for a fractional student shall not exceed the pupil's
24 fractional membership:
25 (i) If attendance for all pupils in the school is based on quarter
26 days, the attendance of a pupil shall be counted as one-fourth of a day's
27 attendance for each one-fourth of full-time instructional time attended.
28 (ii) If attendance for all pupils in the school is based on half
29 days, the attendance of at least three-quarters of the instructional time
30 scheduled for the day shall be counted as a full day's attendance and
31 attendance at a minimum of one-half but less than three-quarters of the
32 instructional time scheduled for the day equals one-half day of
33 attendance.
34 (c) For common schools, the attendance of a preschool child with
35 disabilities shall be counted as one-fourth day's attendance for each
36 thirty-six minutes of attendance, except as provided in paragraph 1,
37 subdivision (a), item (i) of this subsection for children with
38 disabilities up to a maximum of three hundred sixty minutes each week.
39 (d) For high schools, the attendance of a pupil shall not be
40 counted as a full day unless the pupil is actually and physically in
41 attendance and enrolled in and carrying four subjects, each of which, if
42 taught each school day for the minimum number of days required in a school
43 year, would meet a minimum of one hundred twenty-three hours a year, or
44 the equivalent, that count toward graduation in a recognized high school
45 except as provided in section 15-797 and subdivision (e) of this

1 paragraph. Attendance of a pupil carrying less than the load prescribed
2 shall be prorated.

3 (e) For high schools, the attendance of a pupil may be counted as
4 one-fourth of a day's attendance for each sixty minutes of instructional
5 time in a subject that counts toward graduation, except that attendance
6 for a pupil shall not exceed the pupil's full or fractional membership.

7 (f) For homebound or hospitalized, a full day of attendance may be
8 counted for each day during a week in which the student receives at least
9 four hours of instruction.

10 (g) For school districts that maintain school for an approved
11 year-round school year operation, attendance shall be based on a
12 computation, as prescribed by the superintendent of public instruction, of
13 the one hundred eighty days' equivalency or two hundred days' equivalency,
14 as applicable, of instructional time as approved by the superintendent of
15 public instruction during which each pupil is enrolled.

16 6. "Daily route mileage" means the sum of:

17 (a) The total number of miles driven daily by all buses of a school
18 district while transporting eligible students from their residence to the
19 school of attendance and from the school of attendance to their residence
20 on scheduled routes approved by the superintendent of public instruction.

21 (b) The total number of miles driven daily on routes approved by
22 the superintendent of public instruction for which a private party, a
23 political subdivision or a common or a contract carrier is reimbursed for
24 bringing an eligible student from the place of the student's residence to
25 a school transportation pickup point or to the school of attendance and
26 from the school transportation scheduled return point or from the school
27 of attendance to the student's residence. Daily route mileage includes
28 the total number of miles necessary to drive to transport eligible
29 students from and to their residence as provided in this paragraph.

30 7. "District support level" means the base support level plus the
31 transportation support level.

32 8. "Eligible students" means:

33 (a) Students who are transported by or for a school district and
34 who qualify as full-time students or fractional students, except students
35 for whom transportation is paid by another school district or a county
36 school superintendent, and:

37 (i) For common school students, whose place of actual residence
38 within the school district is more than one mile from the school facility
39 of attendance or students who are admitted pursuant to section 15-816.01
40 and who meet the economic eligibility requirements established under the
41 national school lunch and child nutrition acts (42 United States Code
42 sections 1751 through 1785) for free or reduced-price lunches and whose
43 actual place of residence outside the school district boundaries is more
44 than one mile from the school facility of attendance.

1 (ii) For high school students, whose place of actual residence
2 within the school district is more than one and one-half miles from the
3 school facility of attendance or students who are admitted pursuant to
4 section 15-816.01 and who meet the economic eligibility requirements
5 established under the national school lunch and child nutrition acts
6 (42 United States Code sections 1751 through 1785) for free or
7 reduced-price lunches and whose actual place of residence outside the
8 school district boundaries is more than one and one-half miles from the
9 school facility of attendance.

10 (b) Kindergarten students, for purposes of computing the number of
11 eligible students under subdivision (a), item (i) of this paragraph, shall
12 be counted as full-time students, notwithstanding any other provision of
13 law.

14 (c) Children with disabilities, as defined by section 15-761, who
15 are transported by or for the school district or who are admitted pursuant
16 to chapter 8, article 1.1 of this title and who qualify as full-time
17 students or fractional students regardless of location or residence within
18 the school district or children with disabilities whose transportation is
19 required by the pupil's individualized education program.

20 (d) Students whose residence is outside the school district and who
21 are transported within the school district on the same basis as students
22 who reside in the school district.

23 9. "Enrolled" or "enrollment" means that a pupil is currently
24 registered in the school district.

25 10. "GDP price deflator" means the average of the four implicit
26 price deflators for the gross domestic product reported by the United
27 States department of commerce for the four quarters of the calendar year.

28 11. "High school district" means a political subdivision of this
29 state offering instruction to students for grades nine through twelve or
30 that portion of the budget of a common school district that is allocated
31 to teaching high school subjects with permission of the state board of
32 education.

33 12. "Revenue control limit" means the base revenue control limit
34 plus the transportation revenue control limit.

35 13. "Student count" means average daily membership as prescribed in
36 this subsection for the fiscal year before the current year, except that
37 for the purpose of budget preparation student count means average daily
38 membership as prescribed in this subsection for the current year.

39 14. "Submit electronically" means submitted in a format and in a
40 manner prescribed by the department of education.

41 15. "Total bus mileage" means the total number of miles driven by
42 all buses of a school district during the school year.

43 16. "Total students transported" means all eligible students
44 transported from their place of residence to a school transportation
45 pickup point or to the school of attendance and from the school of

1 attendance or from the school transportation scheduled return point to
2 their place of residence.

3 17. "Unified school district" means a political subdivision of this
4 state offering instruction to students in programs for preschool children
5 with disabilities and kindergarten programs and grades one through twelve.

6 B. In this title, unless the context otherwise requires:

7 1. "Base" means the revenue level per student count specified by
8 the legislature.

9 2. "Base level" means the following amounts plus the percentage
10 increases to the base level as provided in sections 15-902.04 and 15-952,
11 except that if a school district or charter school is eligible for an
12 increase in the base level as provided in two or more of these sections,
13 the base level amount shall be calculated by compounding rather than
14 adding the sum of one plus the percentage of the increase from those
15 different sections:

16 (a) For fiscal year 2017-2018, \$3,683.27.

17 (b) For fiscal year 2018-2019, \$3,960.07.

18 (c) For fiscal year 2019-2020, \$4,150.43.

19 3. "Base revenue control limit" means the base revenue control
20 limit computed as provided in section 15-944.

21 4. "Base support level" means the base support level as provided in
22 section 15-943.

23 5. "Certified teacher" means a person who is certified as a teacher
24 pursuant to the rules adopted by the state board of education, who renders
25 direct and personal services to schoolchildren in the form of instruction
26 related to the school district's educational course of study and who is
27 paid from the maintenance and operation section of the budget.

28 6. "DD" means programs for children with developmental delays who
29 are at least three years of age but under ten years of age. A preschool
30 child who is categorized under this paragraph is not eligible to receive
31 funding pursuant to section 15-943, paragraph 2, subdivision (b).

32 7. "ED, MIID, SLD, SLI and OHI" means programs for children with
33 emotional disabilities, mild intellectual disabilities, a specific
34 learning disability, a speech/language impairment and other health
35 impairments. A preschool child who is categorized as SLI under this
36 paragraph is not eligible to receive funding pursuant to section 15-943,
37 paragraph 2, subdivision (b).

38 8. "ED-P" means programs for children with emotional disabilities
39 who are enrolled in private special education programs as prescribed in
40 section 15-765, subsection D, paragraph 1 or in an intensive school
41 district program as provided in section 15-765, subsection D, paragraph 2.

42 9. "ELL" means English learners who do not speak English or whose
43 native language is not English, who are not currently able to perform
44 ordinary classroom work in English and who are enrolled in an English
45 language education program pursuant to sections 15-751, 15-752 and 15-753.

1 10. "Full-time equivalent certified teacher" or "FTE certified
2 teacher" means for a certified teacher the following:

3 (a) If employed full time as defined in section 15-501, 1.00.

4 (b) If employed less than full time, multiply 1.00 by the
5 percentage of a full school day, or its equivalent, or a full class load,
6 or its equivalent, for which the teacher is employed as determined by the
7 governing board.

8 11. "G" MEANS EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS FOR GIFTED PUPILS.

9 ~~11.~~ 12. "Group A" means educational programs for career
10 exploration, a specific learning disability, an emotional disability, a
11 mild intellectual disability, remedial education, a speech/language
12 impairment, developmental delay, homebound, bilingual, other health
13 impairments and gifted pupils.

14 ~~12.~~ 13. "Group B" means educational improvements for pupils in
15 kindergarten programs and grades one through three, EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS
16 FOR GIFTED PUPILS, educational programs for autism, a hearing impairment,
17 a moderate intellectual disability, multiple disabilities, multiple
18 disabilities with severe sensory impairment, orthopedic impairments,
19 preschool severe delay, a severe intellectual disability and emotional
20 disabilities for school age pupils enrolled in private special education
21 programs or in school district programs for children with severe
22 disabilities or visual impairment and English learners enrolled in a
23 program to promote English language proficiency pursuant to section
24 15-752.

25 ~~13.~~ 14. "HI" means programs for pupils with hearing impairment.

26 ~~14.~~ 15. "Homebound" or "hospitalized" means a pupil who is capable
27 of profiting from academic instruction but is unable to attend school due
28 to illness, disease, accident or other health conditions, who has been
29 examined by a competent medical doctor and who is certified by that doctor
30 as being unable to attend regular classes for a period of not less than
31 three school months or a pupil who is capable of profiting from academic
32 instruction but is unable to attend school regularly due to chronic or
33 acute health problems, who has been examined by a competent medical doctor
34 and who is certified by that doctor as being unable to attend regular
35 classes for intermittent periods of time totaling three school months
36 during a school year. The medical certification shall state the general
37 medical condition, such as illness, disease or chronic health condition,
38 that is the reason that the pupil is unable to attend school. Homebound
39 or hospitalized includes a student who is unable to attend school for a
40 period of less than three months due to a pregnancy if a competent medical
41 doctor, after an examination, certifies that the student is unable to
42 attend regular classes due to risk to the pregnancy or to the student's
43 health.

44 ~~15.~~ 16. "K-3" means kindergarten programs and grades one through
45 three.

1 ~~16.~~ 17. "K-3 reading" means reading programs for pupils in
2 kindergarten programs and grades one, two and three.
3 ~~17.~~ 18. "MD-R, A-R and SID-R" means resource programs for pupils
4 with multiple disabilities, autism and severe intellectual disability.
5 ~~18.~~ 19. "MD-SC, A-SC and SID-SC" means self-contained programs for
6 pupils with multiple disabilities, autism and severe intellectual
7 disability.
8 ~~19.~~ 20. "MD-SSI" means a program for pupils with multiple
9 disabilities with severe sensory impairment.
10 ~~20.~~ 21. "MOID" means programs for pupils with moderate
11 intellectual disability.
12 ~~21.~~ 22. "OI-R" means a resource program for pupils with orthopedic
13 impairments.
14 ~~22.~~ 23. "OI-SC" means a self-contained program for pupils with
15 orthopedic impairments.
16 ~~23.~~ 24. "PSD" means preschool programs for children with
17 disabilities as provided in section 15-771.
18 ~~24.~~ 25. "P-SD" means programs for children who meet the definition
19 of preschool severe delay as provided in section 15-771.
20 ~~25.~~ 26. "Qualifying tax rate" means the qualifying tax rate
21 specified in section 15-971 applied to the assessed valuation used for
22 primary property taxes.
23 ~~26.~~ 27. "Small isolated school district" means a school district
24 that meets all of the following:
25 (a) Has a student count of fewer than six hundred in kindergarten
26 programs and grades one through eight or grades nine through twelve.
27 (b) Contains no school that is fewer than thirty miles by the most
28 reasonable route from another school, or, if road conditions and terrain
29 make the driving slow or hazardous, fifteen miles from another school that
30 teaches one or more of the same grades and is operated by another school
31 district in this state.
32 (c) Is designated as a small isolated school district by the
33 superintendent of public instruction.
34 ~~27.~~ 28. "Small school district" means a school district that meets
35 all of the following:
36 (a) Has a student count of fewer than six hundred in kindergarten
37 programs and grades one through eight or grades nine through twelve.
38 (b) Contains at least one school that is fewer than thirty miles by
39 the most reasonable route from another school that teaches one or more of
40 the same grades and is operated by another school district in this state.
41 (c) Is designated as a small school district by the superintendent
42 of public instruction.
43 ~~28.~~ 29. "Transportation revenue control limit" means the
44 transportation revenue control limit computed as prescribed in section
45 15-946.

1 ~~29.~~ 30. "Transportation support level" means the support level for
 2 pupil transportation operating expenses as provided in section 15-945.
 3 ~~30.~~ 31. "VI" means programs for pupils with visual impairments.
 4 Sec. 4. Section 15-943, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
 5 read:

6 15-943. Base support level
 7 The base support level FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025 AND EACH FISCAL
 8 YEAR THEREAFTER for each school district shall be computed as follows:

9 1. The following support level weights shall be used in paragraph
 10 2, subdivision (a) of this section for the following school districts:

11 (a) For school districts whose student count in kindergarten
 12 programs and grades one through eight is classified in column 1 of this
 13 subdivision, the support level weight for kindergarten programs and grades
 14 one through eight is the corresponding support level weight prescribed in
 15 column 2 or 3 of this subdivision, whichever is appropriate:

<u>Column 1</u>	<u>Column 2</u>	<u>Column 3</u>
	Support Level Weight For Small Isolated School Districts	Support Level Weight For Small School Districts
<u>Student Count</u>		
1-99	1.559 1.473	1.399 1.313
100-499	1.358 1.272	1.278 1.192
	+ [0.0005 x (500 - student count)]	+ [0.0003 x (500 - student count)]
500-599	1.158 1.072	1.158 1.072
	+ [0.002 x (600 - student count)]	+ [0.0012 x (600 - student count)]

27 (b) For school districts whose student count in grades nine through
 28 twelve is classified in column 1 of this subdivision, the support level
 29 weight for grades nine through twelve is the corresponding support level
 30 weight prescribed in column 2 or 3 of this subdivision, whichever is
 31 appropriate:

<u>Column 1</u>	<u>Column 2</u>	<u>Column 3</u>
	Support Level Weight For Small Isolated School Districts	Support Level Weight For Small School Districts
<u>Student Count</u>		
1-99	1.669 1.612	1.559 1.502
100-499	1.468 1.411	1.398 1.341
	+ [0.0005 x (500 - student count)]	+ [0.0004 x (500 - student count)]
500-599	1.268 1.211	1.268 1.211
	+ [0.002 x (600 - student count)]	+ [0.0013 x (600 - student count)]

1 2. Subject to paragraph 1 of this section, determine the weighted
2 student count as follows:

3 (a)

<u>Grade Base</u>	<u>Group A</u>	<u>Support Level Weight</u>	<u>Student Count</u>	<u>Weighted Student Count</u>
7 PSD 1.000 + 0.450 =		1.450	x _____	= _____
8 K-8 1.000 + 0.158		1.158	x _____	= _____
	0.058	1.058		
10 9-12 1.163 + 0.105		1.268	x _____	= _____
	0.039	1.202		
			Subtotal	A _____

13 (b)

<u>Funding Category</u>	<u>Support Level Weight</u>	<u>Student Count</u>	<u>Weighted Student Count</u>
17 HI	4.771	x _____	= _____
18 K-3	0.060	x _____	= _____
19 K-3 reading	0.040	x _____	= _____
20 ELL	0.115	x _____	= _____
21 MD-R, A-R and			
22 SID-R	6.024	x _____	= _____
23 MD-SC, A-SC and			
24 SID-SC	5.833	x _____	= _____
25 MD-SSI	7.947	x _____	= _____
26 OI-R	3.158	x _____	= _____
27 OI-SC	6.773	x _____	= _____
28 P-SD	3.595	x _____	= _____
29 DD, ED, MIID, SLD,			
30 SLI and OHI	0.003		
	1.016	x _____	= _____
32 ED-P	4.822	x _____	= _____
33 MOID	4.421	x _____	= _____
34 VI	4.806	x _____	= _____
35 G	0.037	x _____	= _____
		Subtotal	B _____

37 (c) Total of subtotals A and B:

38 3. Multiply the total determined in paragraph 2 of this section by
39 the base level.

40 4. Multiply the teacher experience index of the district or 1.00,
41 whichever is greater, by the product obtained in paragraph 3 of this
42 section.

1 5. For the purposes of this section, the student count is the
 2 average daily membership as prescribed in section 15-901 for the current
 3 year, except that for the purposes of computing the base support level
 4 used in determining school district rollover allocations and school
 5 district budget override amounts, the student count is the average daily
 6 membership as prescribed in section 15-901 for the prior year.

7 Sec. 5. Base support level for fiscal year 2020-2021

8 Notwithstanding section 15-943, Arizona Revised Statutes, as amended
 9 by this act, the base support level for fiscal year 2020-2021 for each
 10 school district shall be computed as follows:

11 1. The following support level weights shall be used in paragraph 2,
 12 subdivision (a) of this section for the following school districts:

13 (a) For school districts whose student count in kindergarten
 14 programs and grades one through eight is classified in column 1 of this
 15 subdivision, the support level weight for kindergarten programs and grades
 16 one through eight is the corresponding support level weight prescribed in
 17 column 2 or 3 of this subdivision, whichever is appropriate:

<u>Column 1</u>	<u>Column 2</u>	<u>Column 3</u>
	Support Level Weight For Small Isolated	Support Level Weight For Small
<u>Student Count</u>	<u>School Districts</u>	<u>School Districts</u>
1-99	1.539	1.379
100-499	1.338	1.258
	+ [0.0005 x (500 - student count)]	+ [0.0003 x (500 - student count)]
500-599	1.138	1.138
	+ [0.002 x (600 - student count)]	+ [0.0012 x (600 - student count)]

29 (b) For school districts whose student count in grades nine through
 30 twelve is classified in column 1 of this subdivision, the support level
 31 weight for grades nine through twelve is the corresponding support level
 32 weight prescribed in column 2 or 3 of this subdivision, whichever is
 33 appropriate:

<u>Column 1</u>	<u>Column 2</u>	<u>Column 3</u>
	Support Level Weight For Small Isolated	Support Level Weight For Small
<u>Student Count</u>	<u>School Districts</u>	<u>School Districts</u>
1-99	1.647	1.537
100-499	1.446	1.376
	+ [0.0005 x (500 - student count)]	+ [0.0004 x (500 - student count)]
500-599	1.246	1.246
	+ [0.002 x (600 - student count)]	+ [0.0013 x (600 - student count)]

1 2. Subject to paragraph 1 of this section, determine the weighted
2 student count as follows:

3 (a)

4					Support				Weighted	
5					Level		Student		Student	
6	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Base</u>		<u>Group A</u>	<u>Weight</u>		<u>Count</u>		<u>Count</u>	
7	PSD	1.000	+	0.450	=	1.450	x	_____	=	_____
8	K-8	1.000	+	0.138	=	1.138	x	_____	=	_____
9	9-12	1.163	+	0.092	=	1.255	x	_____	=	_____
10								Subtotal	A	_____

11 (b)

12					Support				Weighted
13	Funding				Level		Student		Student
14	<u>Category</u>				<u>Weight</u>		<u>Count</u>		<u>Count</u>
15	HI				4.771	x	_____	=	_____
16	K-3				0.060	x	_____	=	_____
17	K-3 reading				0.040	x	_____	=	_____
18	ELL				0.115	x	_____	=	_____
19	MD-R, A-R and								
20	SID-R				6.024	x	_____	=	_____
21	MD-SC, A-SC and								
22	SID-SC				5.833	x	_____	=	_____
23	MD-SSI				7.947	x	_____	=	_____
24	OI-R				3.158	x	_____	=	_____
25	OI-SC				6.773	x	_____	=	_____
26	P-SD				3.595	x	_____	=	_____
27	DD, ED, MIID, SLD,								
28	SLI and OHI				0.222	x	_____	=	_____
29	ED-P				4.822	x	_____	=	_____
30	MOID				4.421	x	_____	=	_____
31	VI				4.806	x	_____	=	_____
32	G				0.007	x	_____	=	_____
33							Subtotal	B	_____

34 (c) Total of subtotals A and B: _____

35 3. Multiply the total determined in paragraph 2 of this section by
36 the base level.

37 4. Multiply the teacher experience index of the district or 1.00,
38 whichever is greater, by the product obtained in paragraph 3 of this
39 section.

40 5. For the purposes of this section, the student count is the
41 average daily membership as prescribed in section 15-901, Arizona Revised
42 Statutes, for the current year, except that for the purposes of computing
43 the base support level used in determining school district rollover
44 allocations and school district budget override amounts, the student count

1 is the average daily membership as prescribed in section 15-901, Arizona
 2 Revised Statutes, for the prior year.

3 Sec. 6. Base support level for fiscal year 2021-2022

4 Notwithstanding section 15-943, Arizona Revised Statutes, as amended
 5 by this act, the base support level for fiscal year 2021-2022 for each
 6 school district shall be computed as follows:

7 1. The following support level weights shall be used in paragraph
 8 2, subdivision (a) of this section for the following school districts:

9 (a) For school districts whose student count in kindergarten
 10 programs and grades one through eight is classified in column 1 of this
 11 subdivision, the support level weight for kindergarten programs and grades
 12 one through eight is the corresponding support level weight prescribed in
 13 column 2 or 3 of this subdivision, whichever is appropriate:

<u>Column 1</u>	<u>Column 2</u>	<u>Column 3</u>
<u>Student Count</u>	Support Level Weight For Small Isolated <u>School Districts</u>	Support Level Weight For Small <u>School Districts</u>
1-99	1.519	1.359
100-499	1.318 + [0.0005 x (500 - student count)]	1.238 + [0.0003 x (500 - student count)]
500-599	1.118 + [0.002 x (600 - student count)]	1.118 + [0.0012 x (600 - student count)]

23 (b) For school districts whose student count in grades nine through
 24 twelve is classified in column 1 of this subdivision, the support level
 25 weight for grades nine through twelve is the corresponding support level
 26 weight prescribed in column 2 or 3 of this subdivision, whichever is
 27 appropriate:

<u>Column 1</u>	<u>Column 2</u>	<u>Column 3</u>
<u>Student Count</u>	Support Level Weight For Small Isolated <u>School Districts</u>	Support Level Weight For Small <u>School Districts</u>
1-99	1.625	1.515
100-499	1.424 + [0.0005 x (500 - student count)]	1.354 + [0.0003 x (500 - student count)]
500-599	1.224 + [0.002 x (600 - student count)]	1.224 + [0.0012 x (600 - student count)]

37 2. Subject to paragraph 1 of this section, determine the weighted
 38 student count as follows:

39 (a)

40		Support				Weighted
41		Level		Student		Student
42	<u>Grade Base</u>	+ <u>Group A</u>	= <u>Support</u>	x <u>Student</u>	=	<u>Count</u>
43	PSD 1.000	+ 0.450	= 1.450	x _____	=	_____

1	K-8	1.000	+	0.118	=	1.118	x	_____	=	_____
2	9-12	1.163	+	0.079	=	1.242	x	_____	=	_____
3								Subtotal A		_____
4	(b)									
5						Support				Weighted
6	Funding					Level		Student		Student
7	<u>Category</u>					<u>Weight</u>		<u>Count</u>		<u>Count</u>
8	HI					4.771	x	_____	=	_____
9	K-3					0.060	x	_____	=	_____
10	K-3 reading					0.040	x	_____	=	_____
11	ELL					0.115	x	_____	=	_____
12	MD-R, A-R and									
13	SID-R					6.024	x	_____	=	_____
14	MD-SC, A-SC and									
15	SID-SC					5.833	x	_____	=	_____
16	MD-SSI					7.947	x	_____	=	_____
17	OI-R					3.158	x	_____	=	_____
18	OI-SC					6.773	x	_____	=	_____
19	P-SD					3.595	x	_____	=	_____
20	DD, ED, MIID,									
21	SLD, SLI and OHI					0.444	x	_____	=	_____
22	ED-P					4.822	x	_____	=	_____
23	MOID					4.421	x	_____	=	_____
24	VI					4.806	x	_____	=	_____
25	G					0.015	x	_____	=	_____
26								Subtotal	B	_____

27 (c) Total of subtotals A and B:

28 3. Multiply the total determined in paragraph 2 of this section by
 29 the base level.

30 4. Multiply the teacher experience index of the district or 1.00,
 31 whichever is greater, by the product obtained in paragraph 3 of this
 32 section.

33 5. For the purposes of this section, the student count is the
 34 average daily membership as prescribed in section 15-901, Arizona Revised
 35 Statutes, for the current year, except that for the purposes of computing
 36 the base support level used in determining school district rollover
 37 allocations and school district budget override amounts, the student count
 38 is the average daily membership as prescribed in section 15-901, Arizona
 39 Revised Statutes, for the prior year.

40 Sec. 7. Base support level for fiscal year 2022-2023

41 Notwithstanding section 15-943, Arizona Revised Statutes, as amended
 42 by this act, the base support level for fiscal year 2022-2023 for each
 43 school district shall be computed as follows:

1 1. The following support level weights shall be used in paragraph
 2 2, subdivision (a) of this section for the following school districts:

3 (a) For school districts whose student count in kindergarten
 4 programs and grades one through eight is classified in column 1 of this
 5 subdivision, the support level weight for kindergarten programs and grades
 6 one through eight is the corresponding support level weight prescribed in
 7 column 2 or 3 of this subdivision, whichever is appropriate:

<u>Column 1</u>	<u>Column 2</u>	<u>Column 3</u>
	Support Level Weight For Small Isolated	Support Level Weight For Small
<u>Student Count</u>	<u>School Districts</u>	<u>School Districts</u>
1-99	1.5	1.34
100-499	$1.299 + [0.0005 \times (500$ - student count)]	$1.219 + [0.0003 \times (500$ - student count)]
500-599	$1.099 + [0.002 \times (600$ - student count)]	$1.099 + [0.0012 \times (600$ - student count)]

17 (b) For school districts whose student count in grades nine through
 18 twelve is classified in column 1 of this subdivision, the support level
 19 weight for grades nine through twelve is the corresponding support level
 20 weight prescribed in column 2 or 3 of this subdivision, whichever is
 21 appropriate:

<u>Column 1</u>	<u>Column 2</u>	<u>Column 3</u>
	Support Level Weight For Small Isolated	Support Level Weight For Small
<u>Student Count</u>	<u>School Districts</u>	<u>School Districts</u>
1-99	1.612	1.502
100-499	$1.411 + [0.0005 \times (500$ - student count)]	$1.341 + [0.0003 \times (500$ - student count)]
500-599	$1.211 + [0.002 \times (600$ - student count)]	$1.211 + [0.0012 \times (600$ - student count)]

31 2. Subject to paragraph 1 of this section, determine the weighted
 32 student count as follows:

33 (a)

<u>Grade Base</u>	<u>Group A</u>	<u>Support Level Weight</u>	<u>Student Count</u>	<u>Weighted Student Count</u>
36 PSD 1.000 + 0.450 = 1.450			x _____	= _____
37 K-8 1.000 + 0.098 = 1.098			x _____	= _____
38 9-12 1.163 + 0.065 = 1.228			x _____	= _____
39			Subtotal	A _____

40

	Support		Student		Weighted
Funding	Level		Count		Student
<u>Category</u>	<u>Weight</u>		<u>Count</u>		<u>Count</u>
5 HI	4.771	x	_____	=	_____
6 K-3	0.060	x	_____	=	_____
7 K-3 reading	0.040	x	_____	=	_____
8 ELL	0.115	x	_____	=	_____
9 MD-R, A-R and					
10 SID-R	6.024	x	_____	=	_____
11 MD-SC, A-SC and					
12 SID-SC	5.833	x	_____	=	_____
13 MD-SSI	7.947	x	_____	=	_____
14 OI-R	3.158	x	_____	=	_____
15 OI-SC	6.773	x	_____	=	_____
16 P-SD	3.595	x	_____	=	_____
17 DD, ED, MIID,					
18 SLD, SLI and OHI	0.665	x	_____	=	_____
19 ED-P	4.822	x	_____	=	_____
20 MOID	4.421	x	_____	=	_____
21 VI	4.806	x	_____	=	_____
22 G	0.022	x	_____	=	_____
23			Subtotal	B	_____

24 (c) Total of subtotals A and B: _____
 25 3. Multiply the total determined in paragraph 2 of this section by
 26 the base level.

27 4. Multiply the teacher experience index of the district or 1.00,
 28 whichever is greater, by the product obtained in paragraph 3 of this
 29 section.

30 5. For the purposes of this section, the student count is the
 31 average daily membership as prescribed in section 15-901, Arizona Revised
 32 Statutes, for the current year, except that for the purposes of computing
 33 the base support level used in determining school district rollover
 34 allocations and school district budget override amounts, the student count
 35 is the average daily membership as prescribed in section 15-901, Arizona
 36 Revised Statutes, for the prior year.

37 Sec. 8. Base support level for fiscal year 2023-2024

38 Notwithstanding section 15-943, Arizona Revised Statutes, as amended
 39 by this act, the base support level for fiscal year 2023-2024 for each
 40 school district shall be computed as follows:

41 1. The following support level weights shall be used in paragraph
 42 2, subdivision (a) of this section for the following school districts:

43 (a) For school districts whose student count in kindergarten
 44 programs and grades one through eight is classified in column 1 of this
 45 subdivision, the support level weight for kindergarten programs and grades

1 one through eight is the corresponding support level weight prescribed in
 2 column 2 or 3 of this subdivision, whichever is appropriate:

<u>Column 1</u>	<u>Column 2</u>	<u>Column 3</u>
	Support Level Weight For Small Isolated	Support Level Weight For Small
<u>Student Count</u>	<u>School Districts</u>	<u>School Districts</u>
1-99	1.481	1.321
100-499	1.28 + [0.0005 x (500 - student count)]	1.2 + [0.0003 x (500 - student count)]
500-599	1.08 + [0.002 x (600 - student count)]	1.08 + [0.0012 x (600 - student count)]

12 (b) For school districts whose student count in grades nine through
 13 twelve is classified in column 1 of this subdivision, the support level
 14 weight for grades nine through twelve is the corresponding support level
 15 weight prescribed in column 2 or 3 of this subdivision, whichever is
 16 appropriate:

<u>Column 1</u>	<u>Column 2</u>	<u>Column 3</u>
	Support Level Weight For Small Isolated	Support Level Weight For Small
<u>Student Count</u>	<u>School Districts</u>	<u>School Districts</u>
1-99	1.612	1.502
100-499	1.411 + [0.0005 x (500 - student count)]	1.341 + [0.0003 x (500 - student count)]
500-599	1.211 + [0.002 x (600 - student count)]	1.211 + [0.0012 x (600 - student count)]

26 2. Subject to paragraph 1 of this section, determine the weighted
 27 student count as follows:

28 (a)

<u>Grade Base</u>	<u>Group A</u>	<u>Support Level Weight</u>	<u>Student Count</u>	<u>Weighted Student Count</u>
PSD 1.000 + 0.450 = 1.450			x _____	= _____
K-8 1.000 + 0.078 = 1.078			x _____	= _____
9-12 1.163 + 0.052 = 1.215			x _____	= _____
			Subtotal	A _____

36 (b)

<u>Funding Category</u>	<u>Support Level Weight</u>	<u>Student Count</u>	<u>Weighted Student Count</u>
HI	4.771	x _____	= _____
K-3	0.060	x _____	= _____
K-3 reading	0.040	x _____	= _____
ELL	0.115	x _____	= _____
MD-R, A-R and SID-R	6.024	x _____	= _____

1	MD-SC, A-SC and					
2	SID-SC	5.833	x	_____	=	_____
3	MD-SSI	7.947	x	_____	=	_____
4	OI-R	3.158	x	_____	=	_____
5	OI-SC	6.773	x	_____	=	_____
6	P-SD	3.595	x	_____	=	_____
7	DD, ED, MIID,					
8	SLD, SLI and OHI	0.887	x	_____	=	_____
9	ED-P	4.822	x	_____	=	_____
10	MOID	4.421	x	_____	=	_____
11	VI	4.806	x	_____	=	_____
12	G	0.030	x	_____	=	_____
13				Subtotal	B	_____

14 (c) Total of subtotals A and B:

15 3. Multiply the total determined in paragraph 2 of this section by
 16 the base level.

17 4. Multiply the teacher experience index of the district or 1.00,
 18 whichever is greater, by the product obtained in paragraph 3 of this
 19 section.

20 5. For the purposes of this section, the student count is the
 21 average daily membership as prescribed in section 15-901, Arizona Revised
 22 Statutes, for the current year, except that for the purposes of computing
 23 the base support level used in determining school district rollover
 24 allocations and school district budget override amounts, the student count
 25 is the average daily membership as prescribed in section 15-901, Arizona
 26 Revised Statutes, for the prior year.

27 Sec. 9. Special education programs; special audit and cost
 28 study; delayed repeal

29 A. The auditor general shall conduct and complete a special audit
 30 and cost study of school district special education programs in this
 31 state. The department of education shall cooperate with and provide
 32 necessary information to the auditor general. The special audit and cost
 33 study shall include all of the following:

34 1. The cost of providing special education programs to students
 35 pursuant to title 15, chapter 7, article 4, Arizona Revised Statutes. Any
 36 costs supported by the federal government shall be considered for the
 37 purposes of this cost study.

38 2. The amount of monies that the school finance formula generates
 39 for a student who receives special education services and the amount of
 40 monies that follow the student to the student's school of attendance.

41 3. Areas in special education programs in which this state can
 42 reduce or eliminate administrative and reporting requirements.

43 4. The use of and cost trends for independent evaluation teams.

44 5. Any other areas the auditor general deems necessary.

45 B. This section is repealed from and after December 31, 2023.

1 Sec. 10. Appropriations; auditor general; special audit and
2 cost study

3 The sum of \$150,000 is appropriated from the state general fund in
4 each of fiscal years 2020-2021, 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 to the auditor
5 general to fund the special audit and cost study required by this act.

6 Sec. 11. Appropriation; extraordinary special education needs
7 fund

8 The sum of \$3,000,000 is appropriated from the state general fund in
9 fiscal year 2020-2021 to the extraordinary special education needs fund
10 established by section 15-774, Arizona Revised Statutes.