

Senate Engrossed

juvenile detention centers; education programs.

State of Arizona
Senate
Fifty-seventh Legislature
Second Regular Session
2026

SENATE BILL 1248

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTIONS 15-913 AND 15-913.01, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING
TO SCHOOL ATTENDANCE.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

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

2 Section 1. Section 15-913, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
3 read:

4 15-913. Juvenile detention centers; education programs; fund

5 A. Each county that operates a juvenile detention center shall
6 offer an education program to serve all school-age children in ~~its~~ THE
7 COUNTY'S juvenile detention center. The county school superintendent and
8 the presiding juvenile court judge in each county shall agree on the
9 method of delivery of the juvenile detention center education program.

10 B. The state board of education shall prescribe standards and
11 achievement testing requirements for county juvenile detention center
12 education programs that attempt to ensure that the programs are compatible
13 with public school education goals and requirements. The county school
14 superintendent shall attempt to coordinate the program with each ~~pupil's~~
15 STUDENT'S school district of residence to assist the ~~pupil's~~ STUDENT'S
16 transition back to the school district at the appropriate time.

17 C. A county may operate ~~its~~ AND FUND, OR OPERATE BUT NOT FUND, THE
18 COUNTY'S juvenile detention center education program through an existing
19 accommodation school.

20 D. If a county chooses not to operate, ~~its~~ OR TO OPERATE BUT NOT
21 FUND, THE COUNTY'S juvenile detention center education program through an
22 existing accommodation school, the county school superintendent may
23 establish a detention center education fund to provide financial support
24 to the JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER EDUCATION program. THE COUNTY SCHOOL
25 SUPERINTENDENT MAY ADMINISTER THE DETENTION CENTER EDUCATION FUND THROUGH
26 AN EXISTING ACCOMMODATION SCHOOL. The detention center education fund for
27 each COUNTY'S program shall consist of a base amount plus a variable
28 amount. For fiscal year 2019-2020, the base amount is \$100,000 and the
29 variable amount shall be determined pursuant to subsection E of this
30 section. Beginning with fiscal year 2020-2021, the base amount is the
31 amount for the prior year adjusted by the growth rate prescribed by law,
32 subject to appropriation. The base amount and variable amount for each
33 county or counties served shall be funded with state general fund monies,
34 subject to appropriation. The county school superintendent must submit
35 claims for payments to the superintendent of public instruction. The
36 county school superintendent shall deposit the payments ~~into~~ IN the
37 detention center education fund. Any excess monies in the detention
38 center education fund shall be used to supplement classroom spending.

39 E. The variable amount OF EACH COUNTY'S DETENTION CENTER EDUCATION
40 FUND shall be determined as follows:

41 1. Determine the number of days in the prior fiscal year that each
42 child who had been in the detention center for more than forty-eight hours
43 received an instructional program of at least two hundred forty minutes.
44 A school district OR AN ACCOMMODATION SCHOOL may not count a child as

1 being in attendance in that school district on a day that the child is
2 counted for the purposes of this paragraph.

3 2. Multiply the number of days determined under paragraph 1 of this
4 subsection by the following amount:

5 (a) For fiscal year 2019-2020, \$25.

6 (b) For fiscal year 2020-2021 and thereafter, the amount for the
7 prior year adjusted by the growth rate prescribed by law, subject to
8 appropriation.

9 3. For each child with a disability as defined in section 15-761
10 who had been in the detention center for more than forty-eight hours:

11 (a) Determine the amount prescribed in section 15-1204, subsection
12 E, paragraph 1 or 2 and add \$100 for capital outlay costs.

13 (b) Divide the sum determined under subdivision (a) of this
14 paragraph by one hundred seventy-five.

15 (c) Subtract the amount prescribed in paragraph 2, subdivision (a)
16 or (b) of this subsection from the quotient determined in subdivision (b)
17 of this paragraph.

18 (d) Determine the number of days in the prior fiscal year that the
19 child received an instructional program of at least two hundred forty
20 minutes.

21 (e) Multiply the amount determined in subdivision (d) of this
22 paragraph by the difference determined in subdivision (c) of this
23 paragraph.

24 4. Add the amounts determined in paragraph 3 of this subsection for
25 all children with disabilities.

26 5. Add the sum determined in paragraph 4 of this subsection to the
27 product determined in paragraph 2 of this subsection. This sum is the
28 variable amount.

29 F. If a county ~~JUVENILE~~ detention center education program serves
30 more than one county, the county school superintendents and the presiding
31 juvenile court judges of the counties ~~being~~ **THAT ARE** served shall agree on
32 a county of jurisdiction. The county school superintendent shall deposit
33 ~~into~~ **IN** the detention center education fund of the county of jurisdiction
34 monies that are received from the superintendent of public instruction
35 pursuant to this section for all counties served by the county of
36 jurisdiction.

37 G. If a county ~~operated~~ **FUNDED** a juvenile detention center
38 education program through an accommodation school in the year before it
39 begins to ~~operate its~~ **FUND THE COUNTY'S** juvenile detention center
40 education program as provided in subsection D of this section, for the
41 first year of ~~operation~~ **FUNDING** as provided in subsection D of this
42 section, the student count of the accommodation school shall be reduced by
43 the student count attributable to the juvenile detention center education
44 program.

1 Sec. 2. Section 15-913.01, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
2 read:

3 15-913.01. County jails; education program; fund

4 A. Each county that operates a county jail shall offer an education
5 program to serve all prisoners who are twenty-one years of age or younger,
6 who do not have a high school diploma or a general equivalency diploma and
7 who are confined in the county jail. The county school superintendent and
8 the sheriff in each county shall agree on the method of delivery of the
9 education program.

10 B. The county school superintendent shall develop policies and
11 procedures to transfer the educational records of any prisoner WHO IS
12 confined in a county jail AND who has been transferred from a juvenile
13 detention center or from any other public agency that has provided
14 educational services to that prisoner.

15 C. A county may operate ~~its~~ AND FUND, OR OPERATE BUT NOT FUND, THE
16 county jail education program through an accommodation school that
17 provides alternative education services pursuant to section 15-308, except
18 that each pupil enrolled in the accommodation school county jail education
19 program shall be funded at an amount equal to seventy-two percent of the
20 amount for that pupil if that pupil were enrolled in another accommodation
21 school program.

22 D. If a county chooses not to operate, ~~its~~ OR TO OPERATE BUT NOT
23 FUND, THE county jail education program through an accommodation school,
24 the county school superintendent may establish a county jail education
25 fund to provide financial support to the COUNTY JAIL EDUCATION program.
26 THE COUNTY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT MAY ADMINISTER THE COUNTY JAIL EDUCATION
27 FUND THROUGH AN EXISTING ACCOMMODATION SCHOOL. The county jail education
28 fund for each COUNTY'S program shall consist of a base amount plus a
29 variable amount. For fiscal year 1999-2000, the base amount is \$14,400
30 and the variable amount shall be determined pursuant to subsection E of
31 this section. The base amount and variable amount for each county or
32 counties served shall be funded with state general fund monies, subject to
33 appropriation. The county school superintendent must submit claims for
34 payments to the superintendent of public instruction. The county school
35 superintendent shall deposit the payments in the respective county jail
36 education fund.

37 E. The variable amount OF EACH COUNTY JAIL EDUCATION FUND shall be
38 determined as follows:

39 1. Determine the number of days in the prior fiscal year that each
40 pupil who is a prisoner and who had been in the county jail for more than
41 forty-eight hours received an instructional program of at least two
42 hundred forty minutes. A school district OR AN ACCOMMODATION SCHOOL may
43 not count a pupil as being in attendance in that school district on a day
44 that the pupil is counted as a prisoner for the purposes of this
45 paragraph.

1 2. Multiply the number of days determined under paragraph 1 of this
2 subsection by the following amount:

3 (a) For fiscal year 1999-2000, \$10.80.

4 (b) For fiscal year 2000-2001 and each year thereafter, the amount
5 for the prior year adjusted by any growth rate prescribed by law, subject
6 to legislative appropriation.

7 3. For each pupil who is a child with a disability as defined in
8 section 15-761, who is a prisoner and who had been in the county jail for
9 more than forty-eight hours:

10 (a) Determine the amount prescribed in section 15-1204, subsection
11 E, paragraph 1 or 2, multiply the amount by .72 and add \$72 for capital
12 outlay costs.

13 (b) Divide the sum determined under subdivision (a) of this
14 paragraph by one hundred seventy-five.

15 (c) Subtract the amount prescribed in paragraph 2 of this
16 subsection from the quotient determined in subdivision (b) of this
17 paragraph.

18 (d) Determine the number of days in the prior fiscal year that the
19 pupil received an instructional program of at least two hundred forty
20 minutes.

21 (e) Multiply the amount determined in subdivision (d) of this
22 paragraph by the difference determined in subdivision (c) of this
23 paragraph.

24 4. Add the amounts determined in paragraph 3 of this subsection for
25 all pupils with disabilities who are prisoners.

26 5. Add the sum determined in paragraph 4 of this subsection to the
27 product determined in paragraph 2 of this subsection. This sum is the
28 variable amount.

29 F. If a county jail education program serves more than one county,
30 the county school superintendents and the sheriffs of the counties ~~being~~
31 ~~THAT ARE~~ served shall agree on a county of jurisdiction. The county
32 school superintendent shall deposit in the county jail education fund of
33 the county of jurisdiction monies that are received from the
34 superintendent of public instruction pursuant to this section for all
35 counties ~~THAT ARE~~ served by the county of jurisdiction.

36 G. If a county ~~operated~~ ~~FUNDED~~ a county jail education program
37 through an accommodation school in the year before it begins to ~~operate~~
38 ~~its~~ ~~FUND THE~~ county jail education program as provided in subsection D of
39 this section, for the first year of ~~operation~~ ~~FUNDING~~ as provided in
40 subsection D of this section, the student count of the accommodation
41 school shall be reduced by the average daily membership attributable to
42 the accommodation school's county jail education program in its last
43 fiscal year of operation.