

IN THE SENATE

SENATE BILL NO. 1249

BY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

AN ACT

1 RELATING TO SCHOOL FUNDS; AMENDING CHAPTER 9, TITLE 33, IDAHO CODE, BY THE
2 ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION 33-912, IDAHO CODE, TO ESTABLISH PROVISIONS
3 REGARDING TEACHER SPENDING ACCOUNTS; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY AND
4 PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
5

6 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

7 SECTION 1. That Chapter 9, Title 33, Idaho Code, be, and the same is
8 hereby amended by the addition thereto of a NEW SECTION, to be known and des-
9 ignated as Section 33-912, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:

10 33-912. TEACHER SPENDING ACCOUNTS. (1) Subject to appropriation, mon-
11 eys shall be made available to directly fund eligible classroom teachers to
12 make allowable classroom educational expenses, on behalf of the school dis-
13 trict or public charter school, that address student education needs, indi-
14 vidual classroom needs, and instructional goals.

15 (2) For purposes of this section, "eligible classroom teacher" means a
16 teacher who holds an Idaho certificate issued pursuant to section 33-1201,
17 Idaho Code, and who is involved in the direct instruction of a student or
18 group of students.

19 (3) Funds appropriated under this section shall be used only for class-
20 room supplies and materials and may not be expended for administrative pur-
21 poses. If the purpose of an expense is in question, the school district or
22 public charter school shall determine whether the expense qualifies as eli-
23 gible based on guidance provided by the state department of education.

24 (4) To determine the allocation of funds, the state department of ed-
25 ucation shall calculate an amount for each eligible classroom teacher and
26 distribute the funds as follows:

27 (a) On or before September 1 of each year, each school district and pub-
28 lic charter school shall determine and submit to the state department
29 of education a roster of the eligible classroom teachers for the cur-
30 rent school year. The roster shall include the first name, last name,
31 school, and school-assigned email address for each eligible teacher.

32 (b) On or before September 30 of each year, the state department of ed-
33 ucation shall electronically distribute the allocated amount of class-
34 room supply funds to each eligible classroom teacher.

35 (5) The state department of education may utilize an administrative
36 system for maintaining rosters of eligible classroom teachers for each
37 school district and public charter school, allocating funds to eligible
38 classroom teachers through a digital wallet, reporting on the use of funds
39 for classroom purposes, and verifying compliance with this section. The
40 administrative system must be capable of:

- 41 (a) Allowing teachers to submit receipts and request reimbursements;
42 (b) Allowing for immediate review and authorization of purchases; and

1 (c) Creating reports of purchases in real-time.

2 (6) Each school district and public charter school shall designate a
3 point of contact to maintain a current roster of eligible classroom teachers
4 within the system.

5 (7) For the purposes of this section, "allowable classroom educational
6 expenses" include:

7 (a) Classroom materials and supplies with an educational purpose to
8 be used in the instruction of students, including books, posters, or
9 charts related to instruction, supplemental materials, special educa-
10 tional materials, and physical education supplies;

11 (b) Supplies utilized on a regular basis in the classroom, including
12 paper goods, cleaning supplies, hand soap and sanitizer, tissues, writ-
13 ing utensils, and arts and crafts supplies;

14 (c) Technological equipment, including software, calculators, per-
15 sonal computers, laptops, tablet devices, microscopes, telescopes,
16 laminators, and printers;

17 (d) Classroom storage and organizational products; and

18 (e) Whiteboards, chalkboards, or bulletin boards.

19 (8) Funds appropriated under this section shall be expended during the
20 fiscal year in which such moneys were distributed to the eligible classroom
21 teacher or during the next fiscal year. Funds not expended during this time
22 frame shall revert to the general fund.

23 SECTION 2. An emergency existing therefor, which emergency is hereby
24 declared to exist, this act shall be in full force and effect on and after
25 July 1, 2024.