

SENATE FILE NO. SF0103

School finance-alternative schools.

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Dockstader

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to school finance; eliminating the  
2 moratorium imposed upon alternative schools included within  
3 a district's configuration of schools under the block grant  
4 funding model, subject to specified conditions; granting  
5 rulemaking authority; and providing for an effective date.

6

7 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

8

9 **Section 1.** W.S. 21-13-309(m)(v)(B) by creating a new  
10 subparagraph (IV) is amended to read:

11

12 **21-13-309. Determination of amount to be included in**  
13 **foundation program for each district.**

14

15 (m) In determining the amount to be included in the  
16 foundation program for each district, the state  
17 superintendent shall:

1

2 (v) Based upon ADM computations and identified  
3 school configurations within each district pursuant to  
4 paragraph (iv) of this subsection, compute the foundation  
5 program amount for each district as prescribed by the  
6 education resource block grant model adopted by the Wyoming  
7 legislature as defined under W.S. 21-13-101(a)(xiv), as  
8 contained within the spreadsheets and accompanying reports  
9 referenced under W.S. 21-13-101(a)(xvii), on file with the  
10 secretary of state and maintained by the state  
11 superintendent pursuant to W.S. 21-2-202(e). The following  
12 criteria shall be used by the state superintendent in the  
13 administration of the education resource block grant model:

14

15 (B) Alternative schools qualifying for  
16 separate consideration under the education resource block  
17 grant model may be established by a school district for  
18 offering educational programs to students with educational  
19 needs which the district finds are not appropriately met by  
20 other schools in the district, excluding charter schools  
21 established under W.S. 21-3-301 through 21-3-314.  
22 Alternative schools included within a district's  
23 configuration of schools identified under paragraph (iv) of

1 this subsection shall for purposes of the education  
2 resource block grant model:

3

4 (IV) On and after July 1, 2012, and if  
5 not qualifying under subdivision (I) of this subparagraph,  
6 be approved by the state superintendent subject to the  
7 following:

8

9 (1) Completion of a formal  
10 evaluation of the school district's at-risk programs to  
11 ensure provision of a continuum of learning supports and  
12 classroom interventions addressing the needs of at-risk  
13 children within the district which is comprised of the  
14 following:

15

16 a. Criteria for identifying  
17 at-risk students in accordance with and subject to  
18 research-based indicators;

19

20 b. Use of individual  
21 learning plans for each identified at-risk student that  
22 define interventions, programs and services required to  
23 address that particular student's special needs and the  
24 plans are continuously monitored by the district;

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

c. Use of quality learning supports and classroom interventions based upon the special needs of the student population served by the district and the supports and interventions are supported by and based upon research-based practices and strategies;

d. Evidence that the learning supports and classroom strategies identified under subdivision (IV)(1)c. of this subparagraph include data based predictors for identifying students at-risk of dropping out of school after reaching the age of compulsory attendance pursuant to W.S. 21-4-102.

(2) A formal evaluation is conducted by the district not less than once every two (2) years of the school's programs, comprised of the continuum of learning supports and classroom interventions specified under subdivision (IV)(1) of this subparagraph. The evaluation shall measure the effectiveness of the school's programs in meeting the needs of those student populations attending the school. Formal evaluations conducted under this subparagraph shall be reported to and approved by the district board and reported to the state superintendent

1 together with action plans addressing necessary program  
2 improvements;

3

4 (3) Student achievement within  
5 the school is reported annually by the district to the  
6 state superintendent, as measured by quality indicators  
7 specified by rule and regulation of the department which  
8 reflect the components of the continuum of learning  
9 supports and classroom interventions specified under  
10 subdivision (IV)(1) of this subparagraph;

11

12 (4) Educational space for the  
13 school is provided through existing facilities operated and  
14 maintained by the district and approved by the school  
15 facilities department as meeting statewide adequacy  
16 standards.

17

18 **Section 2.** This act is effective July 1, 2012.

19

20

(END)