

CHAPTER 19

EDUCATION - PUBLIC SCHOOLS

HOUSE BILL 24-1207

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Bird and Sirota, Taggart, Amabile, Bacon, Brown, Clifford, Duran, English, Epps, Froelich, Garcia, Hamrick, Hernandez, Jodeh, Joseph, Lieder, Lindsay, Lindstedt, Lukens, Mabrey, Martinez, Mauro, McLachlan, Ricks, Rutinel, Snyder, Story, Titone, Velasco, Vigil, Weissman, Willford, Woodrow, Young, McCluskie;
also SENATOR(S) Zenzinger and Kirkmeyer, Exum, Fields, Lundeen, Priola.

AN ACT

CONCERNING ADJUSTMENTS TO SCHOOL FUNDING FOR THE 2023-24 BUDGET YEAR, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, REDUCING AN APPROPRIATION.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

SECTION 1. Legislative declaration. (1) The general assembly finds that:

(a) The actual funded pupil count and at-risk pupil count for the 2023-24 budget year are higher than anticipated when the appropriation was established in the 2023 legislative session for total program funding for the 2023-24 budget year. As a result, total program funding, before application of the budget stabilization factor, is \$61,208,977 higher than anticipated when appropriations were established in the 2023 legislative session.

(b) Based on actual local property tax revenue and specific ownership tax revenue available to school districts for the 2023-24 budget year, the local share of total program funding is \$85,173,767 higher than anticipated when appropriations were established in the 2023 legislative session.

(2) Therefore, it is the general assembly's intent to maintain the budget stabilization factor at the dollar amount of the original appropriation from the 2023 legislative session for the 2023-24 budget year, resulting in a decrease of \$23,964,790 to the state share of districts' total program funding, which amount will remain in the state education fund.

SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-54-104, **amend** (5)(g)(I)(N) as follows:

Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material added to existing law; dashes through words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law and such material is not part of the act.

22-54-104. District total program - definitions - repeal. (5) For purposes of the formulas used in this section:

(g) (I) For the 2010-11 budget year through the 2023-24 budget year, the general assembly determines that stabilization of the state budget requires a reduction in the amount of the annual appropriation to fund the state's share of total program funding for all districts and the funding for institute charter schools. The department of education shall implement the reduction in total program funding through the application of a budget stabilization factor as provided in this subsection (5)(g)(I). For the 2010-11 budget year through the 2023-24 budget year, the department of education and the staff of the legislative council shall determine, based on budget projections, the amount of such reduction to ensure the following:

(N) That, for the 2023-24 budget year, the sum of the total program funding for all districts, including the funding for institute charter schools, after application of the budget stabilization factor, is not less than ~~nine billion one hundred one million six hundred thousand nine hundred twenty-two dollars (\$9,101,600,922)~~ NINE BILLION ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY-ONE MILLION EIGHT HUNDRED TWENTY-SEVEN THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED FIFTEEN DOLLARS (\$9,171,827,315); except that the department of education and the staff of the legislative council shall make mid-year revisions to replace projections with actual figures, including but not limited to actual pupil enrollment, assessed valuations, and specific ownership tax revenue from the prior year, to determine any necessary changes in the amount of the reduction to maintain a total program funding amount for the applicable budget year that is consistent with this subsection (5)(g)(I)(N). For the 2024-25 budget year, the difference between calculated statewide total program funding and actual statewide total program funding must not exceed the difference between calculated statewide total program funding and actual statewide total program funding for the 2023-24 budget year.

ITEM & SUBTOTAL	TOTAL	APPROPRIATION FROM				
		GENERAL FUND	GENERAL FUND EXEMPT	CASH FUNDS	REAPPROPRIATED FUNDS	FEDERAL FUNDS
\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$

SECTION 3. Appropriation to the department of education for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023. In Session Laws of Colorado 2023, section 2 of chapter 474, (SB 23-214), **amend** Part IV (3)(A), the affected totals, and footnote 10, as footnote 10 is amended by Session Laws of Colorado 2023, section 28 of chapter 189 (SB 23-287), as follows:

Section 2. **Appropriation.**

**PART IV
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

(3) SCHOOL DISTRICT OPERATIONS

(A) Public School Finance

Administration	1,739,953	1,641,761		98,192 ^a
		(13.4 FTE)		(0.9 FTE)
Financial Transparency				
System Maintenance	89,172			89,172 ^a
				(1.0 FTE)
School Finance				
Audit Payments	3,000,000			3,000,000 ^b
State Share of Districts ¹				
Total Program Funding ^{9, 10}	4,831,538,344 4,807,573,551	3,057,493,696	1,181,193,165 ^c	592,851,480^a 568,886,690 ^d

APPROPRIATION FROM

ITEM & SUBTOTAL	TOTAL	GENERAL FUND	GENERAL FUND EXEMPT	CASH FUNDS	REAPPROPRIATED FUNDS	FEDERAL FUNDS
\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
District Per Pupil Reimbursements for Juveniles Held in Jail	10,000			10,000 ^e		
At-risk Supplemental Aid	4,844,358			4,844,358 ^f		
At-risk Per Pupil Additional Funding	5,000,000			5,000,000 ^f		
Contingency Reserve Fund	1,000,000			1,000,000 ^g		
	<u>4,847,221,824</u>					
	4,823,257,034					

^a These amounts shall be from the State Education Fund created in Section 17 (4)(a) of Article IX of the State Constitution. Pursuant to Section 17 (3) of Article IX of the State Constitution, appropriations from the State Education Fund are not subject to the limitation on fiscal year spending set forth in Section 20 of Article X of the State Constitution.

^b This amount shall be from the State Public School Fund created in Section 22-54-114 (1), C.R.S.

^c This amount shall be from the General Fund Exempt Account created in Section 24-77-103.6 (2), C.R.S.

APPROPRIATION FROM

ITEM & SUBTOTAL	TOTAL	GENERAL FUND	GENERAL FUND EXEMPT	CASH FUNDS	REAPPROPRIATED FUNDS	FEDERAL FUNDS
\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
TOTALS PART IV (EDUCATION)	6,980,073,856	3,331,152,019	1,181,193,165^a	1,337,977,248^b	79,976,873^c	1,049,774,551^d

^d Of this amount, ~~\$297,073,616~~ \$273,108,826 shall be from the State Education Fund created in Section 17 (4)(a) of Article IX of the State Constitution and \$295,777,864 shall be from the State Public School Fund created in Section 22-54-114 (1), C.R.S. Pursuant to Section 17 (3) of Article IX of the State Constitution, appropriations from the State Education Fund are not subject to the limitation on fiscal year spending set forth in Section 20 of Article X of the State Constitution. Of the amount appropriated from the State Public School Fund, \$207,013,987 is estimated to be from State Public School Fund reserves, \$55,078,013 is estimated to be from federal mineral leasing revenues transferred to the State Public School Fund pursuant to Sections 22-54-114 (1) and 34-63-102, C.R.S., \$25,038,346 is estimated to be from marijuana sales tax revenues transferred to the State Public School Fund pursuant to Section 39-28.8-203 (1)(b)(I.5)(B), C.R.S., and appropriated pursuant to Section 22-54-139, C.R.S., and \$8,647,518 is estimated to be from interest and income earned on the investment of money in the Public School Fund that is credited to the State Public School Fund pursuant to Section 22-41-102 (3)(f), C.R.S.

^e This amount shall be from the State Education Fund created in Section 17 (4)(a) of Article IX of the State Constitution. Pursuant to Section 17 (3) of Article IX of the State Constitution, appropriations from the State Education Fund are not subject to the limitation on fiscal year spending set forth in Section 20 of Article X of the State Constitution.

^f These amounts shall be from the State Public School Fund created in Section 22-54-114 (1), C.R.S., from interest and income earned on the investment of money in the Public School Fund that is credited to the State Public School Fund pursuant to Section 22-41-102 (3)(g), C.R.S.

^g This amount shall be from the Contingency Reserve Fund created in Section 22-54-117 (1)(a), C.R.S.

^a This amount shall be from the General Fund Exempt Account created in Section 24-77-103.6 (2), C.R.S.

^b Of this amount, \$4,527,708 contains an (I) notation.

ITEM & SUBTOTAL	TOTAL	APPROPRIATION FROM				
		GENERAL FUND	GENERAL FUND EXEMPT	CASH FUNDS	REAPPROPRIATED FUNDS	FEDERAL FUNDS
\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$

^c Of this amount, \$43,900,000 contains an (I) notation.

^d This amount contains an (I) notation.

FOOTNOTES -- The following statements are referenced to the numbered footnotes throughout section 2.

10 Department of Education, School District Operations, Public School Finance, State Share of Districts' Total Program Funding -- Pursuant to Section 22-35-108.5 (2)(b)(II), C.R.S., the purpose of this footnote is to specify what portion of this appropriation is intended to be available for the Teacher Recruitment Education and Preparation (TREP) Program for FY 2023-24. It is the General Assembly's intent that the Department of Education be authorized to utilize up to ~~\$2,396,500~~ \$977,980 of this appropriation to fund qualified students designated as TREP Program participants. This amount is calculated based on an estimated ~~250~~ 102 FTE TREP Program participants funded at a rate of ~~\$9,586~~ \$9,588.04 per FTE pursuant to Section 22-54-104 (4.7), C.R.S.

SECTION 4. Safety clause. The general assembly finds, determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety or for appropriations for the support and maintenance of the departments of the state and state institutions.

Approved: March 8, 2024