

State of Arkansas
89th General Assembly
First Extraordinary Session, 2013

A Bill

Call Item 6
SENATE BILL 7

By: Senators Maloch, J. Key, Caldwell, E. Cheatham, L. Chesterfield, J. Dismang, Elliott, S. Flowers, Hickey, Holland, K. Ingram, U. Lindsey, B. Pierce

By: Representative Jett

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO REQUIRE EXCESS REVENUE FROM THE UNIFORM RATE OF TAX TO BE CREDITED TO THE PUBLIC SCHOOL FUND; TO PROVIDE STABILITY FOR SCHOOL DISTRICTS THAT RECEIVED EXCESS REVENUE FROM THE UNIFORM RATE OF TAX IN THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR TO HAVE A GRADUAL PHASE-OUT; TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO REQUIRE EXCESS REVENUE FROM THE UNIFORM RATE OF TAX BE CREDITED TO THE PUBLIC SCHOOL FUND; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 26-80-101(c), concerning the uniform rate of tax, is amended to read as follows:

(c)(1) ~~For~~ Subject to subdivision (c)(2) of this section, for each school year, each county treasurer shall remit the net revenues from the uniform rate of tax to each local school district from which the net revenues were derived.

(2)(A) For each local school district, the Department of Education shall determine if the local school district has a net revenue per student from the uniform rate of tax in excess of the per student foundation funding amount under § 6-20-2305.



(B) Beginning in the 2015-2016 school year, if the Department of Education determines that a local school district has excess net revenue from the uniform rate of tax as calculated under subdivision (c)(2)(A) of this section then the Department of Education shall certify the amount of excess net revenue from the uniform rate of tax to the affected local school district no later than April 1 each year.

(C) A local school district who receives certification under subdivision (c)(2)(B) of this section shall remit the amount certified to the Department of Education for the credit to the Educational Facilities Partnership Fund Account for the maintenance and operation of schools.

SECTION 2. TEMPORARY LANGUAGE. DO NOT CODIFY.

(a) If a local school district received excess net revenue from the uniform rate of tax as calculated under § 26-80-101(c)(2)(A) for the maintenance and operations of the local school district in the 2014-2015 school year, the local school district shall:

(1) Retain two-thirds (2/3) of the amount certified by the Department of Education under § 26-80-101(c)(2)(B) for the 2015-2016 school year, if any; and

(2) Retain one-third (1/3) of the amount certified by the Department of Education under § 26-80-101(c)(2)(B) for the 2016-2017 school year, if any.

(b) A local school district that does not retain excess net revenue under subdivision (a)(1) of this section shall not be entitled to receive excess net revenue under subdivision (a)(2) of this section.

SECTION 3. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that the Public School Insurance Trust Fund is inadequate to provide affordable health insurance for public school employees; changes to the funding system for public school employee health insurance is necessary to ensure a stable and affordable program of health insurance plan options; and that this act is necessary to provide additional funding for public school employee health insurance. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist, and this act being necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become effective on July 1, 2014.