



Hundredth Legislature - First Session - 2007
Committee Statement
LB 691

Hearing Date: February 26, 2007
Committee On: Education

Introducer(s): (Synowiecki)

Title: Change Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act provisions with respect to full-day kindergarten

Roll Call Vote – Final Committee Action:

- Advanced to General File
 - Advanced to General File with Amendments
 - X Indefinitely Postponed
-

Vote Results:

7	Yes	Senators Adams, Avery, Burling, Howard, Johnson, Kopplin, and Raikes
0	No	
0	Present, not voting	
1	Absent	Senator Ashford

Proponents:

Senator John Synowiecki
John Lindsay
Connie Knoche
Jay Sears

Representing:

Introducer
Omaha Public Schools
Nebraska Department of Education
Nebraska State Education Association

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

Legislative Bill 691 would increase weighting factors used in the calculation of formula needs for the distribution of state aid to school districts.

Section 79-1007.01 would be amended to increase the weighting for full-day kindergarten from “one” to “one and four-tenths.”

The limited English proficiency factor would be increased from 0.25 to 1.0 times the applicable number of students.

The poverty factor would be *increased* from

- 0 to 0.10 for the first 5 percent of qualifying students
- 0.05 to 0.20 for the qualifying students comprising more than five percent and not more than 10 percent of the total formula students in the local system
- 0.10 to 0.30 for the qualifying students comprising more than ten percent and not more than 15 percent of the total formula students in the local system
- 0.15 to 0.40 for the qualifying students comprising more than 15 percent and not more than 20 percent of the total formula students in the local system
- 0.20 to 0.50 for the qualifying students comprising more than 20 percent and not more than 25 percent of the total formula students in the local system
- 0.25 to 0.60 for the qualifying students comprising more than 25 percent and not more than 30 percent of the total formula students in the local system
- 0.30 to 0.70 for the qualifying students comprising more than 30 percent of the total formula students in the local system

Section 79-1007.03 which includes the grade-level weightings for the calculation of state aid also would be amended to increase the weighting for full-day kindergarten from “one” to “one and four-tenths.”

Section 79-1028 would be amended to allow school districts to exceed the applicable allowable growth rate by as specific dollar amount if the district demonstrates to the satisfaction of the department that it will exceed the applicable allowable growth rate as a result of changes in the adjusted formula student count due to increased weighting factors. The department would compute the amount by which the increases will result in the district exceeding its applicable allowable growth rate and shall allow the district to increase its general fund expenditures by such amount for that school year.

Explanation of amendments, if any:

Senator Ron Raikes, Chairperson