SENATE BILL 500

52ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2015

INTRODUCED BY

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AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION; AMENDING THE PUBLIC SCHOOL CODE TO ESTABLISH A SIZE ADJUSTMENT FACTOR FOR A SCHOOL DISTRICT WITH ONE OR MORE LARGE HIGH SCHOOLS LOCATED IN ITS POPULATION CENTER AND SMALL HIGH SCHOOLS LOCATED IN ITS SPARSELY POPULATED, ISOLATED, RURAL AREAS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. Section 22-8-23 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1975, Chapter 119, Section 1, as amended) is amended to read:

"22-8-23. SIZE ADJUSTMENT PROGRAM UNITS.--

A. An approved public school with a MEM of less than 400, including early childhood education full-time-equivalent MEM but excluding membership in class C and class D programs and excluding full-time-equivalent membership in three- and four-year-old developmentally disabled programs, is

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eligible for additional program units. Separate schools
established to provide special programs, including but not
limited to vocational and alternative education, shall not be
classified as public schools for purposes of generating size
adjustment program units. The number of additional program
units to which a school district is entitled under this
subsection is the sum of elementary-junior high units and
senior high units computed in the following manner:

Elementary-Junior High Units

$$\frac{200 - MEM}{200} \times 1.0 \times MEM = Units$$

where MEM is equal to the membership of an approved elementary
or junior high school, including early childhood education
full-time-equivalent membership but excluding membership in
class C and class D programs and excluding full-time-equivalent
membership in three- and four-year-old developmentally disabled
programs;

Senior High Units

$$\frac{200 - MEM}{200} \times 2.0 \times MEM = Units$$

or,

Senior High Units

400 - MEM

$$\frac{\rule{2cm}{0.4pt}}{400} \times 1.6 \times \text{MEM} = \text{Units}$$

whichever calculation for senior high units is higher, where

MEM is equal to the membership of an approved senior high

school excluding membership in class C and class D programs.

B. A school district with total MEM of less than

4,000, including early childhood education full-time-equivalent

MEM, is eligible for additional program units. The number of

additional program units to which a school district is entitled

under this subsection is the number of district units computed

in the following manner:

District Units

4,000 - MEM

$$\frac{\rule{2.5cm}{0.4pt}}{4,000} \times 0.15 \times \text{MEM} = \text{Units}$$

where MEM is equal to the total district membership,

including early childhood education full-time-equivalent

membership.

C. A school district with over 10,000 MEM [with a

ratio of MEM to senior high schools less than 4,000:1] that

includes at least one or more large high schools in an urban

area and at least five high schools located twenty or more

miles from the central administrative office of the school

district in sparsely populated, isolated rural areas is

eligible for additional program units [based on the number of

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approved regular senior high schools that are not eligible for

senior high units under Subsection A of this section]. The

number of additional program units to which an eligible school

district is entitled under this subsection is the number of

units computed in the following manner:

[4,000 - MEM

_____   x 0.50 = Units

Senior High Schools]

MEM of Eligible High Schools x 0.5 = Units

where MEM is equal to the total [district membership, including

early childhood education full-time-equivalent membership, and

where senior high schools are equal to the number of approved

regular senior high schools in] number of students enrolled on

the first reporting date in approved regular high schools that

are located twenty miles or more from the central office of the

school district in sparsely populated, isolated, rural areas.

D. A school district, as defined in Subsection R of

Section 22-1-2 NMSA 1978, with a MEM of less than 200,

including early childhood education full-time-equivalent MEM,

is eligible for additional program units, provided that the

department certifies that the school district has implemented

practices to reduce scale inefficiencies, including shared

service agreements with regional education cooperatives or

other school districts for noninstructional functions and

distance education. The number of additional program units to

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which a school district is entitled under this subsection is

the number of units computed in the following manner:

$$200 - MEM = Units$$

where MEM is equal to the total district MEM, including early

childhood education full-time-equivalent MEM."

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