

**ARKANSAS SENATE**  
85th General Assembly - Regular Session, 2005  
**Amendment Form**

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**Subtitle of Senate Bill No. 970**

"ARKANSAS PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMIC FACILITIES FUNDING ACT."

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**Amendment No. 1 to Senate Bill No. 970.**

Amend Senate Bill No. 970 as originally introduced:

Page 1, line 36, delete "the act derived from Senate Bill 2 of 2005" and substitute "Act 660 of 2005"

AND

Page 2, delete lines 16 through 20 and substitute the following:

"(2)(A) "Academic facilities wealth index" means a percentage derived from the following computations:

(i) Determine the value of one (1) mill per student in each school district as follows:

(a) Multiply the value of one (1) mill by the total assessed valuation of taxable real, personal, and utility property in the school district as shown by the applicable county assessment for the most recent year; and

(b) Divide the product from subdivision (2)(A)(i)(a) of this section by the greater of the prior year average daily membership of the school district or the prior three-year average of the school district's average daily membership;

(ii) Determine student millage rankings by listing the computation under subdivision (2)(A)(i) for each school district from the lowest value of a mill per student to the highest value of a mill per student;

(iii) Allocate the student millage rankings into percentiles with the first percentile containing the one percent (1%) of students with the lowest value per mill and the one-hundredth percentile containing the one percent (1%) of students with the highest value per mill; and

(iv)(a) Divide the value of one (1) mill per student in each school district as computed under subdivision (2)(A)(i) by the amount corresponding to the ninety-fifth percentile of the student millage rankings under subdivision (2)(A)(iii).

(b) If the result of the computation under subdivision (2)(A)(iv)(a) of this section is greater than one, then the



percentage shall be set at hundred percent (100%).

(B)(i) The percentage derived from the computation under subdivision (2)(A)(iv) is the academic facilities wealth index for a school district, which shall be computed annually and used to determine the amount of the school district's share of financial participation in a local academic facilities project eligible for state financial participation under priorities established by the division.

(ii) The state's share of financial participation in a local academic facilities project eligible for state financial participation under priorities established by the division is the percentage derived from subtracting the school district's percentage share of financial participation determined under (2)(B)(i) from one hundred percent (100%)."

AND

Page 4, delete lines 21 through 36

AND

Page 5, delete lines 1 through 11

AND

Page 5, line 13, delete "6-20-2504." and substitute "6-20-2503."

AND

Page 7, line 5, delete "6-20-2505." and substitute "6-20-2504."

AND

Page 9, delete line 19 and substitute the following:  
"emergency assistance received by or payable to the school district.

6-20-2505. Academic Equipment Program.

(a) There is established the Academic Equipment Program under which the Division of Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation shall provide school districts with state financial participation to support the purchase of eligible academic equipment based on the school district's academic facilities wealth index.

(b) A school district may apply for state financial participation to support the purchase of academic equipment if:

(1) The school district's application is received by the division no later than July 1, 2005; and

(2) The need for the academic equipment was in existence on January 1, 2005; and

(3) The academic equipment supports an adequate education as described in § 6-20-2302.

(c) As part of its application for state financial participation under this section, a school district shall provide the division with evidence of:

(1) The need for the academic equipment;

(2) The estimated cost of the academic equipment; and

(3) Any additional information determined by the division to be necessary to evaluate the school district's application.

(d) The division shall evaluate a school district's application and notify the school district of the division's decision on the application and, if applicable, the amount of state financial participation. The division shall base its decision on several factors, including, without limitation:

(A) The nature of and need for the academic equipment;

(B) Consistency with current academic equipment standards and sound educational practices;

(C) The academic facilities wealth index of the school district; and

(D) The prudent and resourceful expenditure of state funds with regard to public school academic facilities and equipment.

(e)(1) If a school district qualifies for state financial participation under this section, the division shall certify the amount of state financial participation to the Commission on Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation for oversight purposes. The commission shall certify the amount to the Department of Education for payment.

(2) For tracking purposes, the school district shall account for the funds received as state financial participation under this section as restricted funds and shall account for the funds in accordance with provisions of law, including, without limitation, the Arkansas Educational Financial Accounting and Reporting Act of 2005, § 6-20-2201 et seq. and rules established by the State Board of Education and the commission.

(f) Every effort shall be made to conform the purchase of academic equipment to current academic equipment standards and sound educational practices, unless in the judgment of the division it is impractical to conform the purchase to current standards."

AND

Page 19, delete line 26, and substitute the following:

"and funding before implementing the program.

6-20-2512. Regulatory Authority.

The Commission on Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation shall promulgate rules necessary to administer this subchapter, which shall promote the intent and purposes of this subchapter and assure the prudent and resourceful expenditure of state funds with regard to public school academic facilities throughout the state."

AnD

Page 19, line 28, delete "6-20-2512." and substitute "6-20-2513."

AND

Page 26, delete lines 29 and 30, and substitute "shall become effective on:"

The Amendment was read the first time, rules suspended and read the second time and \_\_\_\_\_

By: Senator Broadway  
SFI/SFI - 03-31-2005 09:41  
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Secretary