

State of Arkansas  
76th General Assembly  
Regular Session, 1987  
By: Senator Luelf

SENATE BILL 563

"AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT SCHOOL DISTRICTS MEETING CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS SHALL BE GRANTED AN EXTENSION OF TIME IN WHICH TO MEET ONE OF THREE SPECIFIED MINIMUM SCHOOL STANDARDS OR SHALL BE GRANTED AN EXEMPTION FROM THE REQUIREMENT THAT FIFTY-SIX PERCENT OF ALL NEW REVENUES RECEIVED BY THE DISTRICT BE USED FOR SALARIES OF PERSONNEL; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

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

SECTION 1. Any school district which suffered a reduction in State aid for the 1986-87 school year as a result of shortfall in State revenues, and which levied an ad valorem tax of nineteen (19) mills or more on taxable real property in the district at the 1986 school election or which passes an increase in the ad valorem tax millage at the 1987 school election which will raise the millage levied in the district to nineteen (19) mills or more, and which could have met the minimum school standards but for the reduction in State aid, shall be granted an extension of time for compliance with the school standard regarding either (1) counsellors, or (2) principals, or (3) class size, or shall be granted an exemption from the requirement that fifty-six percent of all new monies received by the district be used for compensation of personnel, whichever is requested by the district. Any school qualifying for an extension or an exemption as authorized herein shall so notify the Department of Education and shall designate in the notice the particular standard for which the school desires an extension of time for compliance or that the school wishes to be exempt from the requirement that fifty-six percent of all new monies received by the district be expended for personnel compensation.

Upon receipt of such notice, the State Board of Education shall, if it

determines that the district qualifies for the extension or exemption, grant the district an extension of time for compliance with the standard designated in the notice or shall exempt the district from the requirement that fifty-six percent of all new funds received by the district be used for personnel compensation, and such exemption or extension shall be in effect until such time as the district receives State aid in any year equal to the State aid which the district would have received for the 1986-87 school year but for the shortfall in State revenues.

SECTION 3. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. EMERGENCY. It is hereby found and determined by the General Assembly that most school districts in the State received substantially less State aid during the 1986-87 school year than was anticipated due to the shortfall in State revenues; that many of those districts levied additional local ad valorem tax millages or will levy additional ad valorem tax millages at the 1987 school election and have made every reasonable local effort to provide funds to meet the minimum school standards; that many of such districts will be unable to meet the minimum school standards only because of the failure to receive the State aid they reasonably expected during the 1986-87 school year; that such school districts cannot reasonably be expected to comply with all the minimum school standards until such time as they do receive State aid in any particular year equal to or greater than the amount of State aid they reasonably expected for the 1986-87 school year; that this Act is designed to grant an extension to such districts to comply with one of the school standards until such time as the district receives during any one school year State aid in the amount such district reasonably expected to receive during the 1986-87 school year and should be given effect immediately. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act being necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

