

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas  
2 86th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2007

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 919

4  
5 By: Senator Laverty  
6 By: Representatives Davenport, Ragland, Overbey

## For An Act To Be Entitled

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10 AN ACT TO EQUALIZE FOUNDATION FUNDING FOR SPECIAL  
11 NEEDS PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICTS; AND FOR OTHER  
12 PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

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15 AN ACT TO EQUALIZE FOUNDATION FUNDING  
16 FOR SPECIAL NEEDS PUBLIC SCHOOL  
17 DISTRICTS.

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

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22 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-20-604(b), concerning additional funding  
23 for special needs, is amended to read as follows:

24 (b) A school district shall receive special needs funding if the  
25 school district meets the requirements of subsections (c) through ~~(f)~~(e) of  
26 this section, and if:

27 (1) The school district was consolidated or annexed or received  
28 an annexed school under § 6-13-1601 et seq.;

29 (2) The local board of directors by majority vote determines  
30 that the isolated school is so isolated that to combine its operation to one  
31 (1) district campus would be impractical or unwise; and

32 (3) The isolated school or district:

33 (A) Filed an affidavit of isolated school status with the  
34 state board during the consolidation or annexation process and the facts of  
35 the affidavit are verified by the state board or its designee to meet the  
36 requirements of § 6-20-601;



1 (B) Filed an affidavit of isolated school status with the  
2 state board after the consolidation or annexation process or with regard to  
3 the 2006-2007 school year no later than June 1, 2006, and the facts of the  
4 affidavit are verified by the state board or its designee to meet the  
5 requirements of § 6-20-601; or

6 (C) Filed an affidavit of isolated school status with the  
7 state board after the consolidation or annexation process or with regard to  
8 the 2006-2007 school year no later than June 1, 2006, and the facts of the  
9 affidavit are verified by the state board or its designee to meet the  
10 requirements of § 6-20-601 but for the average daily membership requirements  
11 of three hundred fifty (350) students or fewer.

12  
13 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-20-604(f)-(g), concerning additional  
14 funding for special needs, is amended to read as follows:

15 ~~(f) A school district shall receive an amount equal to five percent~~  
16 ~~(5%) of the foundation funding received by the school district under § 6-20-~~  
17 ~~2305(a)(2) based on the three-quarter average daily membership of the school~~  
18 ~~district if the district has a+~~

19 ~~(1) Three-quarter average daily membership of fewer than five~~  
20 ~~hundred (500) students; and~~

21 ~~(2) Density ratio of two (2) students or fewer per square mile.~~

22 ~~(g)(f)~~ A school district eligible for special needs funding under this  
23 section shall continue to be eligible to receive isolated school funding  
24 provided under § 6-20-603 but shall only receive funding under one (1) of the  
25 categories established under subsections ~~(e)-(f) in~~ (c)-(e) of this section.

26 (g)(1) A school district shall receive special needs funding to ensure  
27 that its foundation funding is equal to the foundation funding provided to a  
28 five-hundred-student school district, based on the following:

29 (A) If the school district has a three-quarter average  
30 daily membership for the preceding year of at least three hundred fifty (350)  
31 but not more than four hundred (400), the school district shall receive  
32 funding in an amount equal to:

33 (i) Fifteen percent (15%) of the per student  
34 foundation funding amount under § 6-20-2305(a)(2); multiplied by

35 (ii) The difference between the school district's  
36 three-quarter average daily membership for the preceding year and five

1 hundred (500);

2 (B) If the school district has a three-quarter average  
3 daily membership of at least four hundred one (401) but not more than four  
4 hundred fifty (450), the school district shall receive funding in an amount  
5 equal to:

6 (i) Twenty percent (20%) of the per student  
7 foundation funding amount under § 6-20-2305(a)(2); multiplied by

8 (ii) The difference between the school district's  
9 three-quarter average daily membership for the preceding year and five  
10 hundred (500); or

11 (C) If the school district has a three-quarter average  
12 daily membership of at least four hundred fifty-one (451) but not more than  
13 five hundred (500), the school district shall receive funding in an amount  
14 equal to:

15 (i) Twenty-five percent (25%) of the per student  
16 foundation funding amount under § 6-20-2305(a)(2); multiplied by

17 (ii) The difference between the school district's  
18 three-quarter average daily membership for the preceding year and five  
19 hundred (500).

20 (2) A school district is not required to meet the requirements  
21 of subsection (b) of this section to receive funding under this subsection  
22 (g).

23 (3)(A) This subsection (g) shall be funded with undistributed  
24 funds allocated to a school district under subsections (c) through (e) of  
25 this section that, pursuant to subsection (h) of this section, is no longer  
26 eligible to receive the funding under this section because all or part of an  
27 isolated school in the school district is closed by the school district board  
28 of directors.

29 (B) Until this subsection (g) is fully funded under  
30 subdivision (g)(3)(A) of this section, the school districts eligible for  
31 funding under this subsection (g) shall receive a pro-rated portion of the  
32 available funds.

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