

House Bill 2558

Sponsored by COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Allows school to qualify as remote small elementary school for purpose of weighting in State School Fund distribution formula if school is not within eight miles of school in same school district. Allows school to qualify as remote small elementary school or small high school if school qualifies on effective date of Act.

Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2009.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to small schools; creating new provisions; amending ORS 327.077; repealing section 12,
3 chapter 61, Oregon Laws 1993; and declaring an emergency.

4 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

5 **SECTION 1.** ORS 327.077 is amended to read:

6 327.077. (1) A school may qualify as a remote small elementary school if the average daily
7 membership in grades one through eight for an elementary school teaching:

8 (a) Eight grades is below 224.

9 (b) Seven grades is below 196.

10 (c) Six grades is below 168.

11 (d) Five grades is below 140.

12 (e) Four grades is below 112.

13 (f) Three grades is below 84.

14 (g) Two grades is below 56.

15 (h) One grade is below 28.

16 (2) A school may qualify as a small high school if:

17 (a) The school is in a school district that has an ADMw of less than 8,500; and

18 (b) The average daily membership in grades 9 through 12 for a high school teaching:

19 (A) Four grades is below 350.

20 (B) Three grades is below 267.

21 (3) [No] **An** elementary school [*shall*] **may not** qualify as a remote small elementary school un-
22 der subsection (1) of this section if it is within eight miles by the nearest traveled road from another
23 elementary school **in the same school district** unless there are physiographic conditions that make
24 transportation to another school not feasible.

25 (4)(a) If an elementary school in a school district qualifies as a remote small elementary school,
26 the district shall have an additional amount added to the district's ADMw.

27 (b) The additional amount = {224 - (ADM_a ÷ (number of grades in the school ÷ eight))} ×
28 0.0045 × ADM_a × distance adjustment.

29 (5)(a) If a high school in a district qualifies as a small high school, the district shall have an
30 additional amount added to the district's ADMw.

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 (b) The additional amount = $\{350 - (\text{ADM}_a \div (\text{number of grades in the school} \div \text{four}))\} \times$
 2 $0.0029 \times \text{ADM}_a$.

3 (6) The distance adjustment for an elementary school = 0.025 for each 10th of a mile more than
 4 eight miles that a school is away from the nearest elementary school **in the same school district**
 5 measured by the nearest traveled road or 1.0, whichever is less.

6 (7)(a) A school may qualify as a remote small elementary school under this section only if the
 7 location of the school has not changed since January 1, 1995, and if the school qualified as a remote
 8 small school on *[July 18, 1995]* **the effective date of this 2009 Act.**

9 (b) A school may qualify as a small high school under this section only if the location of the
 10 school has not changed since January 1, 1995, and if the school qualified as a small high school on
 11 *[October 23, 1999]* **the effective date of this 2009 Act.**

12 (c) A public charter school as defined in ORS 338.005 may qualify as a remote small elementary
 13 school under this section only if the location of the school has not changed since January 1, 1995,
 14 and if the school qualified as a nonchartered public remote small school on July 18, 1995.

15 (d) A public charter school as defined in ORS 338.005 may qualify as a small high school under
 16 this section only if the location of the school has not changed since January 1, 1995, and if the
 17 school qualified as a nonchartered public remote small school on July 18, 1995.

18 (e) The Superintendent of Public Instruction may waive the requirements of paragraph (a), (b),
 19 (c) or (d) of this subsection if the superintendent determines that exceptional circumstances exist.

20 (f) An alternative education program as defined in ORS 336.615 may not qualify as a small high
 21 school under this section.

22 (8) The opening of a public charter school shall not disqualify a school as a remote small ele-
 23 mentary school under subsection (3) of this section or change the distance adjustment for a school
 24 under subsection (6) of this section.

25 (9)(a) Notwithstanding subsections (2), (5) and (7)(b) and (d) of this section, if two high schools
 26 merge and prior to the merger at least one of the high schools qualified as a small high school under
 27 this section, the Department of Education shall continue to add an additional amount pursuant to
 28 subsection (5) of this section to the ADM_w of the school district in which the new merged high
 29 school is located that is equal to the higher of:

30 (A) The additional amount the school district of each of the former small high schools would
 31 have received under this section for the small high school based on the ADM_a of each of the high
 32 schools prior to the merger; or

33 (B) In the case of a high school that remains qualified as a small high school under subsection
 34 (2) of this section after a merger, the ADM_a of the merged small high school.

35 (b) The department shall add the additional amount under this subsection only for the first four
 36 fiscal years after the merger of the two high schools is final. If the merger of the two high schools
 37 becomes final on or before September 1, for purposes of this paragraph the merger shall be consid-
 38 ered final in the prior fiscal year.

39 (10) For purposes of this section:

40 (a) The “adjusted average daily membership” or “ ADM_a ” for an elementary school shall be the
 41 average daily membership for the school, but no less than 25.

42 (b) The “adjusted average daily membership” or “ ADM_a ” for a high school shall be the average
 43 daily membership for the school, but no less than 60.

44 **SECTION 2. Section 12, chapter 61, Oregon Laws 1993, as amended by section 24, chapter**
 45 **1066, Oregon Laws 1999, is repealed.**

1 **SECTION 3.** The amendments to ORS 327.077 by section 1 of this 2009 Act apply to State
2 School Fund distributions commencing with the 2009-2010 distribution.

3 **SECTION 4.** This 2009 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
4 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2009 Act takes effect
5 July 1, 2009.
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