

Joint Committee on Ways and Means

Carrier – House: Rep. Komp
Carrier – Senate: Sen. Monroe

Revenue: Revenue statement issued

Fiscal: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass as Amended and as Printed A-Engrossed

Vote: 22 – 1 – 2

House

Yeas: Beyer, Buckley, Cowan, Freeman, Garrard, Komp, Kotek, McLane, Nathanson, Richardson,
G. Smith, Thatcher

Nays: Nolan

Exc: Whisnant

Senate

Yeas: Bates, Devlin, Edwards, Johnson, Monroe, Nelson, Thomsen, Verger, Whitsett, Winters

Nays:

Exc: Girod

Prepared By: Monica Brown, Legislative Fiscal Office

Meeting Date: April 8, 2011

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: The measure establishes the 2011-12 school year subaccount within the State School Fund. On October 1, 2011, \$100 million will be transferred from the Education Stability Fund to the newly established subaccount. School districts, the Youth Corrections Education Program, and the Juvenile Detention Education Program, excluding education service districts, shall use these resources for smaller class sizes or to enhance learning opportunities. A school district or program must provide a written plan and proof of compliance to the Legislature by January 15, 2012. The Legislative Fiscal Office is required to review and report in to an appropriate interim legislative committee on compliance. A finding of noncompliance shall be reported to the Governor. If the Governor concurs, the Department of Education shall be notified to reduce payments made to the school district or program found to be out of compliance. The measure requires a three-fifths vote.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Definition of “smaller classes”

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Replaces the bill.

BACKGROUND: The Education Stability Fund (ESF) has been used five separate times to balance or rebalance a biennial budget. Although the ESF must be used for expenditures on public education, since education comprises a significant portion of the state’s budget (K-12 through higher education), expenditure of ESF resources for public education allows the General Fund dollars designated for education to be redirected to other sectors of the budget. The most recent allocation will occur with a transfer of \$84.3 million in May 2011 for the 2009-11 biennium.