

SENATE BILL No. 124

By Committee on Education

1-24

AN ACT establishing the Kansas council on school district finance and quality performance; imposing duties on the council.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. (a) There is established the Kansas council on school district finance and quality performance. The council shall be composed of 17 members.

(b) The following members of the council shall serve ex officio or shall designate a person to represent them on the council: The governor, the chairperson and ranking minority member of the committee on education of the house of representatives, the chairperson and ranking minority member of the committee on education of the senate, the chairperson and ranking minority member of the committee on taxation of the house of representatives, the chairperson and ranking minority member of the committee on assessment and taxation of the senate, the chairperson and ranking minority member of the committee on appropriations of the house of representatives, the chairperson and ranking minority member of the committee on ways and means of the senate, the chairperson of the state board of education. The remainder of the members of the council shall be representative of the general public and shall be appointed as follows: Two members shall be appointed by the governor and shall serve at the pleasure of the governor, and one member shall be appointed by the state board of education and shall serve at the pleasure of the state board.

(c) The council shall organize annually and elect a chairperson and vice-chairperson from among the members of the council. The vice-chairperson shall exercise all of the powers of the chairperson in the absence of the chairperson. If a vacancy occurs in the office of chairperson or vice-chairperson, another member of the council shall be elected by the members of the council to fill such vacancy. Within 30 days after the effective date of this act, the council shall organize and elect a chairperson and a vice-chairperson in accordance with the provisions of this subsection.

(d) A quorum of the council on school district finance and quality performance shall be nine.

(e) The council on school district finance and quality performance

1 may meet at any time on the call of the chairperson.

2 (f) In accordance with K.S.A. 46-1204, and amendments thereto, the
3 legislative coordinating council may provide for such professional services
4 as may be requested by the council on school district finance and quality
5 performance.

6 (g) Members of the council on school district finance and quality
7 performance attending meetings of the council or subcommittee meet-
8 ings authorized by the council shall receive compensation, subsistence
9 allowances and mileage provided for in K.S.A. 75-3223, and amendments
10 thereto.

11 (h) The staff of the legislative research department, the office of the
12 revisor of statutes and the division of legislative administrative services
13 shall provide such assistance as may be requested by the council on school
14 district finance and quality performance and authorized by the legislative
15 coordinating council.

16 (i) The staff of the state department of education shall provide such
17 assistance as may be requested by the council on school district finance
18 and quality performance and authorized by the state board of education.

19 Sec. 2. The council on school district finance and quality perform-
20 ance shall:

21 (a) Monitor operation of the school district finance and quality per-
22 formance act and the quality performance accreditation system;

23 (b) evaluate the components of the act and determine whether there
24 is a fair and equitable relationship between the costs of weighted com-
25 ponents and the weightings assigned to such components;

26 (c) determine whether additional school district operations should be
27 weighted;

28 (d) evaluate the effect of the act and the system on local control;

29 (e) determine whether operation of the act fulfills the obligation of
30 the state to provide a suitable education for Kansas children;

31 (f) evaluate the reform and restructuring components of the act and
32 assess the impact of such components on the educational systems of
33 school districts and on the educational system of the state as a whole;

34 (g) review and evaluate systems of financial support, reform and re-
35 structuring of public education in other states in an effort to ensure that
36 the Kansas system is the most efficient and effective;

37 (h) review the amount of base state aid per pupil and, in conjunction
38 therewith, determine whether the amount of state financial aid provided
39 for school districts is sufficient to provide adequate educational oppor-
40 tunities for Kansas children;

41 (i) explore alternative funding sources;

42 (j) evaluate the state's policy regarding qualification of educational
43 programs for categorical state aid and whether entitlement formulas

1 therefor are equitable;

2 (k) make an annual report, together with any recommendations for
3 legislation relating to school finance or restructuring deemed necessary,
4 to the legislature, the governor, and the state board of education.

5 Sec. 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
6 publication in the Kansas register.

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