

SESSION OF 2012

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 260

As Amended by Senate Committee on
Education

Brief*

SB 260 would repeal the portion of the special education state aid formula that determines the minimum and maximum amount of special education state aid a school district may receive.

Background

The bill was introduced by the Legislative Educational Planning Committee. As originally passed in 2010, the provision directed the State Board of Education to determine the minimum and maximum amounts of state aid paid to districts for the cost of special education teachers. Minimum and maximum factors were determined by dividing the total special education per teacher entitlement by the full time equivalent enrollment of all school districts to determine an average per pupil amount. Any district with a special education per pupil amount below 75 percent of that statewide average would receive additional funding; districts receiving 150 percent of that average would have funding decreased.

The implementation of the provision was delayed one year when originally passed in 2010, and delayed again in 2011, after testimony from special education professionals across the state testified of the negative effects it would have for special education students.

*Supplemental notes are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. The supplemental note and fiscal note for this bill may be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.kslegislature.org>

Representatives from the Cowley County Special Services Cooperative, Chautauqua and Elk County Special Education Services, Doniphan County Education Cooperative, Kansas Association of Special Education Administrators, Topeka Public Schools, Coordinating Council on Early Childhood Developmental Services, Northwest Educational Service Center, and High Plains Educational Cooperative were proponents of SB 260. There were no opponents to this bill.

The Senate Education Committee made a technical correction to the bill.

According to the Division of Budget fiscal note enactment of SB 260 would have no fiscal effect. Although the bill would change state aid on a per teacher basis, it would not affect the total.