HOUSE BILL 215
43Rd Legislature- STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRst SESSION 1997
I NTRODUCED BY
DANICE PICRAUX

FOR THE PUBLIC SCHOOL FUNDING FORMULA TASK FORCE

AN ACT
RELATING TO EDUCATION; AMENDING AND ENACTING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOL FINANCE ACT TO ABOLISH CERTAIN SIZE ADJUSTMENT UNITS, TO PROVIDE FOR AT-RISK STUDENT PROGRAM UNITS, TO REVISE SPECIAL EDUCATION INDICES AND TO ESTABLISH PROGRAM UNITS FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION ANCI LLARY SERVICE PROGRAMS; MAKING APPROPRIATI ONS.
be It enacted by the legi Slature of the state of new mexico:
Section 1. Section 22-8-2 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1978, Chapter 128, Section 3, as amended) is amended to read:
"22-8-2. DEFINITIONS. .-As used in the Public School Finance Act:
A. "ADM" or "MEM" means membership;
B. "membership" means the total enrollment of qualified students on the current roll of a class or school on a
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specified day. The current roll is established by the addition of original entries and reentries minus withdrawals.

Withdrawals of students, in addition to students formally withdrawn from the public school, [include students absent from the public school for as many as ten consecutive school days;
C. "basic program ADM" or "basic program MEM" means the MEM of qualified students but excludes the full-timeequivalent MEM in early childhood education and three. and four. year old students receiving special education services;
D. "cost differential factor" is the numerical expression of the ratio of the cost of articular segment of the school program to the cost of the basic program in grades four through six;
E. "department" or "division" means the state department of public education;
F. "early childhood education ADM" or "early childhood education MEM" means the full-time-equivalent MEM of students attending approved early childhood education programs;
G. "full-time-equivalent ADM" or "full-time-
equivalent MEM" $^{\prime \prime}$ is that membership calculated by applying to the MEM in an approved public school program the ratio of the number of hours per school day devoted to the program to six hours or the number of hours per school week devoted to the program to thirty hours;
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H. "operating budget" means the annual financial plan required to be submitted by a $10 c a l$ school board;

1. "program cost" is the product of the total number of program units to which a school district is entitled multiplied by the dollar value per program unit established by the Iegislature;
J. "program element" is that component of a public school system to which cost differential factor is applied to determine the number of program units to which a school district is entitled, including but not limited to MEM, full-time. equivalent MEM, teacher, classroom or public school;
K. "program unit" is the product of the program element multiplied by the applicable cost differential factor;
L. "public money" or "public funds" means all money from public or private sources received by a local school board or officer or employee of a local school board for public use;
M. "qualified student" means a public school student who:
(1) has not graduated from high school;
(2) is regularly enrolled in one-half or more of the minimum course requirements approved by the state board for public school students; and
(3) is at least five years of age prior to

12:01 a.m. on September 1 of the school year; or
(4) is at least three years of age at any time
during the school year and is receiving special education services pursuant to regulation of the state board; or
(5) has not reached his twenty-second birthday on the first day of the school year and is receiving special education services pursuant to regulation of the state board; and
N. "state superintendent" means the superintendent of public instruction or his designee."

Section 2. Section 22-8-18 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1974, Chapter 8, Section 8, as amended) is amended to read:
"22-8-18. PROGRAM COST CALCULATION.-LOCAL SCHOOL BOARD RESPONSI BI LI TY...
A. The total program units for the purpose of computing the program cost shall be calculated by multiplying the sum of the program units itemized as Paragraphs (1) through (4) in this subsection by the instruction staff training and experience index and adding the program units itemized as Paragraphs (5) through [(7)] (8) in this subsection. The itemized program units are as follows:
(1) early childhood education;
(2) basic education;
(3) special education, adjusted by subtracting
the units derived from [ flass D-speal education MEM] membership in class D special education programs in private, nonsectarian, nonprofit training centers;
114381.3
(4) bilingual multicultural education;
(5) size adjustment;
(6) at-risk student:
[ (6)] (7) enroll ment growth or new district
adjustment; and
[ (7)] (8) special education units derived from [Elass D special education MEM] membership in class D special education programs in private, nonsectarian, nonprofit training centers.
B. The total program cost calculated as prescribed in Subsection $A$ of this section includes the cost of early childhood, special, bilingual multicultural and vocational education and other remedial or enrichment programs. It is the responsibility of the local school board to determine its priorities in terms of the needs of the community served by that board. Funds generated under the Public School Finance Act are discretionary to local school boards, provided that the special program needs as enumerated in this section are met."

Section 3. Section 22-8-19 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1974, Chapter 8, Section 9, as amended) is amended to read:
"22-8-19. EARLY CHI LDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAM UNITS..-
A. The number of early childhood education program units is determined by multiplying the early childhood education MEM by the cost differential factor 1.44. No early childhood education student shall be counted for more than 0.5 early
childhood education MEM.
B. For the purpose of calculating early childhood education program units, developmentally disabled three- and four-year-old students shall be counted in early childhood education membership. No developmentally disabled three- and four-year old student shall be counted for more than 0.5 early childhood education MEM."

Section 4. Section 22-8-21 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1974, Chapter 8, Section 11, as amended by Laws 1992, Chapter 75, Section 1 and also by Laws 1992, Chapter 84, Section 1) is amended to read:
"22-8-21. SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM UNITS...
A. For the purpose of the Public School Finance Act, special education programs for exceptional children are those approved by the department and classified as follows:
(1) class A programs, in which department certified individuals provide services to children whose individualized education programs require a minimal amount of special education and in which the ratio of students to professionals is regulated by the state board;
(2) class B programs, in which department certified individuals provide services to children whose individualized education programs require a moderate amount of special education and in which the ratio of students to professionals is regulated by the state board;
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(3) class C programs, in which department certified individuals provide services to children whose individualized education programs require an extensive amount of special education and in which the ratio of students to professionals is regulated by the state board;
(4) class D programs, in which department certified individuals provide services to children whose individualized education programs require a maximum amount of special education and in which the ratio of students to professionals is regulated by the state board. Students in class D programs may be enrolled in private, nonsectarian, nonprofit educational training centers in accordance with the provisions of Section 22-13-8 NMSA 1978; and
(5) programs for developmentally disabled three- and four-year-old children meeting standards approved by the state board.
B. All students assigned to the programs for exceptional children classified in Subsection $A$ of this section shall have been so assigned as a result of diagnosis and evaluation performed in accordance with the standards of the department before the students may be counted in the determination of special education program units as provided in Subsection $C$ of this section.
C. The number of special education program units is the sum of the following:
(1)

 Aumber of approved class A and class B programs requested by the Hocal school board and certified by the department multiplied by the cost differential factor 20] the MEM in approved class A and B programs as defined in Subsection $A$ of this section multiplied by the cost differential factor. 7;
(2) the [special education] MEM in approved class C programs as defined in Subsection $A$ of this section multiplied by the cost differential factor [1,9] 1.0;
(3) the [spal education] MEM in approved
class D programs as defined in Subsection $A$ of this section multiplied by the cost differential factor [3.5; and] 2.0; [and]
(4) the [spalion] MEM for developmentally disabled three- and four-year-old children as defined in [ (5) Subsection $A$ of this section multiplied by the cost differential factor [3.5] 2.0; provided that no developmentally disabled three- or four-year-old student shall be counted for additional ancillary service units; and
(5) for related services ancillary to providing special education, the number of full-time equivalent certified or licensed ancillary service and diagnostic service personnel multiplied by the cost differential factor 25.0.
D. For the purpose of calculating membership in class C and class D programs, students shall be counted in
actual grade placement or according to chronological age if not in actual grade placement. "

Section 5. Section 22-8-23 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1975, Chapter 119, Section 1 , as amended) is amended to read:
"22-8-23. SIZE ADJUSTMENT PROGRAM UNITS...
A. An approved public school with a MEM of Iess
than 400, including early childhood education full-time equivalent MEM but excluding [special education class $\mathbb{C}$ and class D-MEM] membership in class $C$ and class D programs and excluding full-time equivalent membership in three- and fouryear old developmentally disabled programs, is eligible for additional program units. Separate schools established to provide special programs, including but not limited to vocational and alternative education, shall not be classified as public schools for purposes of generating size adjustment program units. The number of additional program units to which a school district is entitled under this subsection is the sum of elementary-junior high units and senior high units computed in the following manner:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { Elementary-Junior High Units } \\
& \frac{200 \cdot M E M}{200} \times 1.0 \times \text { MEM }=\text { Units }
\end{aligned}
$$

where MEM is equal to the membership of an approved elementary or junior high school, including early childhood education full. time equivalent membership but excluding special education class C and class $D$ membership;
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Senior High Units 200. MEM $\times 2.0 \times$ MEM $=$ Units
or,
Senior High Units $\frac{400 \text { - MEM }}{400} \times 1.6 \times$ MEM $=$ Units
whichever calculation for senior high units is higher, where MEM is equal to the membership of an approved senior high school excluding special education class C and class D membership.
B. A school district with total MEM of less than 4, 000, including early childhood education full-time equivalent MEM [and special MEM], is eligible for additional program units. The number of additional program units to which a district is entitled under this subsection is the number of district units computed in the following manner:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { District Units } \\
& \frac{4000 \text { MEM }}{4000} \times 0.15 \times \text { MEM }=\text { Units }
\end{aligned}
$$

where $M E M$ is equal to the total district membership, including early childhood education full-time equivalent membership [ and special education membership].
C. A school district with over 10,000 MEM with a ratio of MEM to senior high schools less than 4, 000:1 is eligible for additional program units based on the number of approved regular senior high schools that are not eligible for senior high units under Subsection $A$ of this section.
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The number of additional program units to which an eligible school district is entitled under this subsection is the number of units computed in the following manner:

4000 - MEM $\times 0.50=$ Units
Senior High Schools
where MEM is equal to the total district membership, including early childhood education full-time equivalent membership [and spectancone and where senior high schools are equal to the number of approved regular senior high schools in the district.

greater than fiftecn thousand but leess than thirty five thousand, including carly childhood education full-time equivalent MEM and special education MEM, is eligiblefor additional program units. The number of additional program
units to which an eligible district is entitled under this subsection is the number of units computed in the following manner:

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                                    MEM 15,000 * .15 * MEM= Units
                                    15,000
Where MEM is equal to the total district membership, including
early childhood education full-time equivalent membership and
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special education membership.
F. A school district with a total MEM of greater
than thirty five thousand, including oarly childhood education
full time equivalent MEM and special education MEM, is eligible
for additional program units. The number of additional program
units to which an eligible district is entitled under this
subsection is the number of units computed in the following
manncr:-
$\frac{\text { MEM } 35,000}{35,000} \times .023 \times$ MEM $=$ Units
Where MEM is equal to the total district membership, including
early childhood education full time equivalent membership and
special education membership.] "

Section 6. A new section of the Public School Finance Act, Section 22-8-23.3 NMSA 1978 is enacted to read:
"22-8-23.3. [ NEW MATERIAL] AT-RISK STUDENT PROGRAM UNI TS...
A. A school district that establishes programs and provides services to students at risk of academic failure is eligible for additional programunits. The number of additional
units to which a district is entitled under this section is computed in the following manner:
At-Risk Index x MEM = Units
where MEM is equal to the total district membership, including early childhood education, full-time-equivalent membership and special education membership, and where the at-risk index is calculated in the following manner:

Refined At-Risk Cluster x Assigned Value = At-Risk Index.
B. To calculate the refined at-risk cluster, the department shall rank order each school district in the state on the basis of the district's percentage of membership used to determine its Title l allocation, the percentage of membership classified as limited English proficient using criteria established by the federal office of civil rights, the percentage of student mobility and the percentage of dropouts in the school district. Using this data, the department shall initially group districts into nine clusters using a Kohonen mathematical analysis. Each school district shall be assigned a whole number from one to nine reflecting its initial cluster assignment, with higher need districts receiving a higher number and lower need districts receiving a lower number. This number shall be modified on the basis of a school district's relative position in the cluster. That number shall be further refined through the use of a second mathematical calculation, a back propagation. Using a back propagation, the department shall
refine the cluster assignment and the number assigned to each school district. The number obtained from this calculation is the refined at-risk cluster.
C. To establish the assigned value necessary to calculate the at-risk index, the department shall assign a value to each district based on the district's refined at-risk cluster number. The value assigned shall not be less than. Ol or be more than . 15. School districts with a lower refined at-risk cluster number shall receive a lower value assignment; school districts with a higher refined at-risk cluster number shall receive a higher value assignment. The value assigned to each district shall be the number used to calculate the at-risk index."

Section 7. Section 22-8-25 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1981, Chapter 176, Section 5, as amended by Laws 1993, Chapter 226, Section 23 and also by Laws 1993, Chapter 231, Section 14) is amended to read:
"22-8-25. STATE EQUALIZATION GUARANTEE DISTRIBUTION. -DEFINITIONS.- DETERMINATI ON OF AMOUNT...
A. The state equalization guarantee distribution is that amount of money distributed to each school district to ensure that the school district's operating revenue, including its local and federal revenues as defined in this section, is at Ieast equal to the school district's program cost.
B. "Local revenue", as used in this section, means
ninety-five percent of receipts to the school district derived from that amount produced by a school district property tax applied at the rate of fifty cents (\$.50) to each one thousand dollars $(\$ 1,000)$ of net taxable value of property allocated to the school district and to the assessed value of products severed and sold in the school district as determined under the Oil and Gas Ad Valorem Production Tax Act and upon the assessed val ue of equipment in the school district as determined under the Oil and Gas Production Equipment Ad Valorem Tax Act.
C. "Federal revenue", as used in this section, means ninety-five percent of receipts to the school district, excluding amounts which, if taken into account in the computation of the state equalization guarantee distribution, result, under federal law or regulations, in a reduction in or elimination of federal school funding otherwise receivable by the school district, derived from the following:
(I) the school district's share of forest reserve funds distributed in accordance with Section 22-8-33 NMSA 1978; and
(2) grants from the federal government as
assistance to those areas affected by federal activity authorized in accordance with Sections 236 through 240 of Title 20 of the United States Code (commonly known as "PL 874 funds") or an a mount equal to the revenue the district was entitled to receive if no application was made for such funds but deducting
from those grants the additional amounts to which school districts would be entitled because of the provisions of Subparagraph (D) of Paragraph (2) of Subsection (d) of Section 238 of Title 20 of the United States Code.
D. To determine the amount of the state equalization guarantee distribution, the state superintendent shall:
(I) calculate the number of program units to which each school district is entitled using the [membership of the fortieth day of the school year, except for school districts with a MEM of 200 or less where the number of program units shall be calculated on the fortieth day membership of either the prior year or the current year, whichever is greater, for all programs except special education, which shall be calculated by Using the membership on December 1 of the school year] basic program membership of the fortieth day for all programs: provided that special education program units shall be calculated using the membership in special education programs on December 1; or
(2) calculate the number of program units to which a school district operating under an approved year-round school calendar is entitled using the basic program membership on an appropriate date established by the state board; or
(3) calculate the number of program units to which a school district with a basic program MEM of 200 or less is entitled by using the basic program membership on the
fortieth day of either the prior or the current year, whichever is greater: provided that special education program units shall be calculated using the membership in special education programs on December 1 of either the prior or the current year; and
[(3)] (4) using the results of the calculations in Paragraph (1), [ $0+$ ] (2) or (3) of this subsection and the instructional staff training and experience index from the October report of the prior school year, establish a total program cost of the school district;
[(4)] (5) calculate the local and federal revenues as defined in this section;
[(5)] (6) deduct the sum of the calculations made i n Paragraph [(4)] (5) of this subsection from the program cost established in Paragraph [ $3+14$ (4) of this subsection; and
[ ( $-6+$ ] $(7)$ deduct the total amount of guaranteed energy savings contract payments that the state superintendent determines will be made to the school district from the public school energy efficiency fund during the fiscal year for which the state equalization guarantee distribution is being computed.
E. The a mount of the state equalization guarantee distribution to which a school district is entitled is the bal ance remaining after the deductions made in Paragraphs [(5) and] (6) and (7) of Subsection $D$ of this section.
F. The state equalization guarantee distribution shall be distributed prior to June 30 of each fiscal year. The .114381 .3
calculation shall be based on the ocal and federal revenues specified in this section received from June $\mid$ of the previous fiscal year through May 31 of the fiscal year for which the state equalization guarantee distribution is being computed. In the event that a district has received more state equalization guarantee funds than its entitlement, a refund shall be made by the district to the state general fund.
G. Notwithstanding the methods of calculating the state equalization guarantee distribution in this section and Laws 1974, Chapter 8, Section 22, if a school district received funds under Section 2391 of Title 42 USCA and if the federal government takes into consideration grants authorized by Sections 236 through 240 of Title 20 of the United States Code and all other revenues available to the school district in determining the level of federal support for the school district for the sixty-fourth and succeeding fiscal years, the state equal ization guarantee distribution for school districts receiving funds under this subsection shall be computed as follows:

| fiscal year program cost |  | prior fiscal year |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| excluding special education |  | state equalization |
| for the year for which the | x | guarantee distribution |
| state equalization guarantee |  | excluding special |
| distribution is being computed |  | education |

plus special education funding in accordance with Paragraphs
(1), [or] (2) [and] or (3) and (4) of Subsection D of this
section and Section 22-8-21 NMSA 1978 plus an amount that would be produced by applying a rate of eight dollars forty-two and one-half cents (\$8.425) to each one thousand dollars (\$1,000) of net taxable value of property as defined in the Property Tax Code for property taxation purposes in the school district and to each one thousand dollars (\$1,000) of the assessed value of products severed and sold in the school district as determined under the Oil and Gas Ad Valorem Production Tax Act and upon the assessed value of equipment in the school district as determined under the Oil and Gas Production Equipment Ad Valorem Tax Act and then reduced by the total amount of guaranteed energy savings contract payments, if any, that the state superintendent determines will be made to the school district from the public school energy efficiency fund during the fiscal year for which the state equalization guarantee distribution is being computed, equals the fiscal year state equalization guarantee distribution for the year for which the state equalization guarantee distribution is being computed.

If at any time grants from the federal government as assistance to those areas affected by federal activity authorized in accordance with Sections 236 through 240 of Title 20 of the United States Code (commonly known as "PL 874 funds") are reduced or are no longer available, the state equalization guarantee distribution shall be computed by the formula contained in this subsection plus an increase by fifty percent
of the amount the prior year's PL 874 funds exceed PL 874 funds for the year for which the state equalization guarantee distribution is being computed."

Section 8. APPROPRIATION.-Fifty-five million dollars $(\$ 55,000,000)$ is appropriated from the general fund to the state equalization guarantee distribution for expenditure in fiscal year 1998 for the purpose of funding additional program units authorized by Iaw. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 1998 shall revert to the general fund.

Section 9. APPROPRIATION..-Two million four hundred thousand dollars (\$2,400,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the state department of public education for expenditure in fiscal year 1998 for the purpose of making additional distributions to those school districts receiving a reduced state equalization guarantee distribution as a result of the enactment of amendments to the Public School Finance Act by the first session of the forty-third legislature. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 1998 shall revert to the general fund.

Section 10. EffECTIVE DATE... The effective date of the provisions of this act is July 1, 1997.

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# State of New Mexico House of Representatives 

FORTY-THIRD LEGI SLATURE
FIRST SESSION, 1997

Your EDUCATION COMMI TTEE, to whom has been referred HOUSE BILL 215
has had it under consideration and reports same with ecommendation that it DO NOT PASS, but that

HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILL 215

DO PASS, and thence referred to the APPROPRIATIONS AND fl NANCE COMMITTEE.

HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILL 215
43RD Legislature - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 1997

AN ACT
RELATING TO EDUCATION; AMENDING AND ENACTING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOL CODE AND THE PUBLIC SCHOOL FINANCE ACT TO AbOLISH CERTAIN SIZE ADJ USTMENT UNITS, TO PROVIDE FOR AT-RISK PROGRAM UNITS, TO REVISE SPECIAL EDUCATION INDICES AND TO ESTABLISH PROGRAM UNITS FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION ANCILLARY SERVICE PROGRAMS: MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.
be It enacted by the legi Slature of the state of new mexi co:
Section 1. Section 22-1-6 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1989, Chapter 308, Section 1 , as amended) is amended to read:
"22-1-6. ANNUAL SCHOOL DISTRICT ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT REQUI RED. . -
A. Each school district shall be required to publish an annual school district accountability report to provide district-wide data for the previous school year. The school district shall send to the state superintendent the required data with the year-end reports prior to August 15 each year. The state superintendent shall compile the district reports data

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and send a draft compilation report to the districts by October 15 each year and send a final compilation state report to the governor and Iegislature prior to November 15 each year.
B. The accountability report shall include a brief statement of the mission of the local school board, enrollment statistics, total expenditures per pupil for the school year, administrative expenditures per student for the school year, the average teacher salary, a summary of student scores on all state-mandated tests and college entrance exam scores, including the norm base year; a summary of services provided for students receiving services through the additional at-risk program units: the number of New Mexico scholars eligible for and receiving scholarships; the percentage of the graduating high school class applying for entrance into a four-year post-secondary institution; the percentage of seniors beginning the year who graduate; the percentage of ninth graders, plus any newcomers entering during grades nine through twelve, who graduate; the percentage of full-time-equivalent students participating in bilingual programs, chapter 1 programs, special education programs and other federally funded programs, with the percentage of the district budget attributable to each program; the percentage of the district budget utilized to employ certified teachers, admi nistrators, support personnel and noncertified classified personnel; the number of students enrolled in advanced placement courses; a concise annual budget report, including revenue and expense data; budget funding sources; the student drop-out rate; continual student progress follow-up study; a statement of school district goals for the upcoming
year; an invitation to all citizens to participate in school planning and school activities; and other data and information that clearly [ © ommunicates] communicate the activities and progress of the school district to the residents of that school district. The published accountability report shall compare district, state and national data whenever appropriate and shall include the rank of the school district among all of the school districts in the state, for all state-mandated tests and college exam scores, graduation percentages, drop-out rate, per-student administration expenditure, total per-student expenditure and average teacher salary data. The published report shall use tables and graphs to better communicate complex information and, using the ranking data, shall include a graphic representation of the school district's progress over the preceding three years.
C. The annual accountability report shall also include the results of a survey of parents' views of the quality of their children's school. The survey shall be conducted each year in time to include the results in the annual accountability report. The survey shall compile the results of a written questionnaire that shall be sent home with the students to be given to their parents. The survey may be completed anonymously. The survey shall be no more than one page, shall be clearly and concisely written and shall include not more than twenty questions that shall be answered with options of a simple sliding scale ranging from "strongly agree" to "strongly disagree" and shall include the optional response "don't know". The survey shall al so include a request for optional written comments, which may be written on the back of the questionnaire form. The questionnaire shall include questions in

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the following areas:
(1) parent-teacher-school relationship and
communication;
(2) quality of educational and extracurricular programs;
(3) instructional practices and techniques;
(4) resources;
(5) school personnel, including the school
principal; and
(6) parents' view of teaching staff expectations for the students.

The state board shall develop no more than ten of the questions, which shall be reviewed by the legislative education study committee prior to implementation. No more than five questions shall be developed by the local school board and no more than five questions shall be developed by the staffs of each individual school site, provided that at least half of those questions are developed by teachers rather than administrators, in order to gather information that is specific to the particular community surveyed.
D. The annual accountability report for each school district shall be published no later than November 15 of each year and shall be published at least once each school year in a newspaper of general circulation in the county where the district is located. In publication, the report shall be titled "the school district report card"."

Section 2. Section 22-8-2 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1978, Chapter 128, Section 3, as amended) is amended to read:
"22-8-2. DEFINITIONS.--As used in the Public School Finance Act:
A. "ADM" or "MEM" means membership;
B. "membership" means the total enrollment of qualified students on the current roll of a class or school on a specified day. The current roll is established by the addition of original entries and reentries mi nus withdrawals. Withdrawals of students, in addition to students formally withdrawn from the public school, [includes] include students absent from the public school for as many as ten consecutive school days;
C. "basic program ADM" or "basic program MEM" means the MEM of qualified students but excludes the full-time-equivalent MEM in early childhood education and three- and four-year old students receiving special education services;
D. "cost differential factor" is the numerical expression of the ratio of the cost of a particular segment of the school program to the cost of the basic programin grades four through six;
E. "department" or "division" means the state
department of public education;
F. "early childhood education ADM" or "early childhood education MEM" means the full-time-equivalent MEM of students attending approved early childhood education programs;
G. "full-time-equivalent ADM" or "full-time- equivalent MEM" is that membership calculated by applying to the MEM in an approved public school program the ratio of the number of hours per school day devoted to the program to six hours or the number of hours per school week devoted to the program to thirty hours;

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H. "operating budget" means the annual financial plan required to be submitted by a local school board;

1. "program cost" is the product of the total number of program units to which a school district is entitled multiplied by the dollar value per program unit established by the legislature;
J. "program element" is that component of a public school system to which cost differential factor is applied to determine the number of program units to which a school district is entitled, including but not limited to MEM, full-time-equivalent MEM, teacher, classroom or public school;
K. "program unit" is the product of the program element multiplied by the applicable cost differential factor;
L. "public money" or "public funds" means all money from public or private sources received by a local school board or officer or employee of a local school board for public use;
M. "qualified student" means a public school student who:
(1) has not graduated from high school;
(2) is regularly enrolled in one-half or more of the mi nimum course requirements approved by the state board for public school students; and
(3) is at least five years of age prior to $12: 01$
a. m. on September 1 of the school year; or
(4) is at least three years of age at any time during the school year and is receiving special education services pursuant to regulation of the state board; or
(5) has not reached his twenty-second birthday on the first day of the school year and is receiving special education .116549 .2
services pursuant to regulation of the state board; and
N. "state superintendent" means the superintendent of public instruction or his designee."

Section 3. Section 22-8-18 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1974, Chapter 8, Section 8, as amended) is amended to read:
"22-8-18. PROGRAM COST CALCULATION--LOCAL SCHOOL BOARD RESPONSIBILITY...
A. The total program units for the purpose of computing the program cost shall be calculated by multiplying the sum of the program units itemized as Paragraphs (1) through (4) in this subsection by the instruction staff training and experience index and adding the program units itemized as Paragraphs (5) through [ $(7+]$ (8) in this subsection. The itemized program units are as follows:
(1) early childhood education;
(2) basic education;
(3) special education, adjusted by subtracting the units derived from [flass D special education MEM] membership in class D special education programs in private, nonsectarian, nonprofit training centers;
(4) bilingual multicultural education;
(5) size adjustment;
(6) at-risk program;
[(6)] (7) enroll ment growth or new district
adjustment; and
[ ( $7+$ ] (8) special education units derived from [Glass D-special education MEM] membership in class D special education programs in private, nonsectarian, nonprofit training

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centers.
B. The total program cost calculated as prescribed in Subsection $A$ of this section includes the cost of early childhood, special, bilingual multicultural and vocational education and other remedial or enrichment programs. It is the responsibility of the |ocal school board to determine its priorities in terms of the needs of the community served by that board. Funds generated under the Public School Finance Act are discretionary to local school boards, provided that the special program needs as enumerated in this section are met."

Section 4. Section 22-8-19 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1974, Chapter 8, Section 9, as amended) is amended to read:
"22-8-19. EARLY CHI LDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAM UNITS...
A. The number of early childhood education program units is determined by multiplying the early childhood education MEM by the cost differential factor 1.44. No early childhood education student shall be counted for more than 0.5 early childhood education MEM.

## B. For the purpose of calculating early childhood

 education program units, developmentally disabled three- and four-year-old students shall be counted in early childhood education membership. No developmentally disabled three- or four-year old student shall be counted for more than 0.5 early childhood education MEM."Section 5. Section 22-8-21 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1974, Chapter 8, Section 11, as amended by Laws 1992, Chapter 75, Section 1 and also by Laws 1992, Chapter 84, Section 1) is amended toread:
"22-8-21. SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM UNITS..-
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A. For the purpose of the Public School Finance Act, special education programs for exceptional children are those approved by the department and classified as follows:
(1) class A programs, in which department certified individuals provide services to children whose individualized education programs require a mi nimal amount of special education and in which the ratio of students to professionals is regulated by the state board;
(2) class B programs, in which department certified individuals provide services to children whose individualized education programs require a moderate amount of special education and in which the ratio of students to professionals is regulated by the state board;
(3) class C programs, in which department certified individuals provide services to children whose individualized education programs require an extensive amount of special education and in which the ratio of students to professionals is regulated by the state board;
(4) class D programs, in which department certified individuals provide services to children whose individualized education programs require a maximum amount of special education and in which the ratio of students to professionals is regulated by the state board. Students in class D programs may be enrolled in private, nonsectarian, nonprofit educational training centers in accordance with the provisions of Section 22-13-8 NMSA 1978; and
(5) programs for developmentally disabled three. and four-year-old children meeting standards approved by the state

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board.
B. All students assigned to the programs for exceptional children classified in Subsection $A$ of this section shall have been so assigned as a result of diagnosis and evaluation performed in accordance with the standards of the department before the students may be counted in the determination of special education program units as provided in Subsection $C$ of this section.
C. The number of special education program units is the sum of the following:
(1) [for class A and class B-programs as defined in subsection $A$ of this section, the product of the number of approved class A and class B programs requested by the local schoot board and certified by the department multiplied by the cost differential factor 20] the MEM in approved class A and B programs as defined in Subsection $A$ of this section multiplied by the cost differential factor. 7;
(2) the [special education] MEM in approved class C programs as defined in Subsection $A$ of this section multiplied by the cost differential factor [1.9] $\underline{1.0}$;
(3) the [special education] MEM in approved class D programs as defined in Subsection $A$ of this section multiplied by the cost differential factor [3.5; and ] $\underline{\underline{2} \cdot}$
(4) the [special education] MEM for
developmentally disabled three- and four-year-old children as defined in [ (5) Offer Subsection A of this section multiplied by the cost differential factor [3.5] 2.0; provided that no developmentally disabled three- or four-year-old student shall
be counted for additional ancillary service units; and
(5) for related services ancillary to providing special education, the number of full-time-equivalent certified or licensed ancillary service and diagnostic service personnel multiplied by the cost differential factor 25.0. D. For the purpose of calculating membership in class C and class D programs, students shall be counted in actual grade placement or according to chronological age if not in actual grade placement."

Section 6. Section 22-8-23 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1975, Chapter 119, Section 1 , as amended) is amended to read:
"22-8-23. SIZE ADJUSTMENT PROGRAM UNITS...
A. An approved public school with a MEM of less than 400, including early childhood education full-time-equivalent MEM but excluding [special education class $C$ and class D MEM] membership in class $C$ and class $D$ programs and excluding full-timeequivalent membership in three- and four-year-old developmentally disabled programs, is eligible for additional program units. Separate schools established to provide special programs, including but not limited to vocational and alternative education, shall not be classified as public schools for purposes of generating size adjustment program units. The number of additional program units to which a school district is entitled under this subsection is the sum of elementary-junior high units and senior high units computed in the following manner:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { Elementary-Junior High Units } \\
& \frac{200 \text { - MEM }}{200} \times 1.0 \times \text { MEM }=\text { Units }
\end{aligned}
$$

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where MEM is equal to the membership of an approved elementary or junior high school, including early childhood education full-timeequivalent membership but excluding [spectal education clas $C$ and Class D membership] membership in class $C$ and class D programs and excluding full-time-equivalent membership in three- and four-yearold developmentally disabled programs;

Senior High Units
200. MEM $\times 2.0 \times$ MEM $=$ Units 200
or,
Senior High Units
400 . MEM x $1.6 \times \mathrm{MEM}=$ Units
400
whichever calculation for senior high units is higher, where MEM is equal to the membership of an approved senior high school excluding [ special education class C and class D memership] membership in class $C$ and $C l a s s ~ D ~ p r o g r a m s . ~$
B. A school district with total MEM of less than 4,000 , including early childhood education full-time-equivalent MEM [and special MEM], is eligible for additional program units. The number of additional program units to which a district is entitled under this subsection is the number of district units computed in the following manner:

> District Units

$$
4000 \text {. MEM } \times 0.15 \times \text { MEM }=\text { Units }
$$

$$
4000
$$

where MEM is equal to the total district membership, including early childhood education full-time-equivalent membership [and special education membership].
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C. A school district with over 10,000 MEM with a ratio of MEM to senior high schools less than 4, 000:1 is eligible for additional program units based on the number of approved regular senior high schools that are not eligible for senior high units under Subsection $A$ of this section. The number of additional program units to which an eligible school district is entitled under this subsection is the number of units computed in the following manner:

4000 - MEM $\times 0.50=$ Units
Senior High Schools
where MEM is equal to the total district membership, including early childhood education full-time-equivalent membership [and special education membership], and where senior high schools are equal to the number of approved regular senior high schools in the district.
[ D. A school district with a total MEM of greater than ten thousand but leess than fifteen thousand, including early childhood education full-time equivalent MEM and special education MEM, is eligible for additional program units. The number of additional program units to which an eligible district is entitled under this subsection is the number of units computed in the following manner:


10,000
Where MEM is equal to the total district membership, including early childhood education full-time equivalent membership and special education membership.
E. A school district with a total MEM of

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greater than fifteen thousand but less than thirty five thousand, Including early childhood education full time equivalent MEM and special education MEM, is eligible for additional program units. The number of additional program units to which an eligible district is entitled under this subsection is the number of units computed in the following manner:


15,000
Where MEM is equal to the total district membership, including early childhood education full time equivalent membership and special education membership.
F. A school district with a total MEM of greater than thirty five thousand, including carly childhood education full time equivalent MEM and special education MEM, is cligiblefor additional programunits. The number of additional programunits to which an eligible district is entitled under this subsection is the number of units computed in the following manner:
 35,000

Where MEM is equal to the total district membership, including early childhood education full time equivalent membership and special education membership.]"

Section 7. A new section of the Public School Finance Act, Section 22-8-23.3 NMSA 1978, is enacted to read:
"22-8-23.3. [ NEW MATERIAL] AT-RISK PROGRAM UNITS...
A. A school district is eligible for additional program units if it establishes within its state-board-approved educational plan identified services to assist students to reach their full academic potential. A school district receiving additional at-risk .116549 .2
program units shall include a report of specified services in its annual accountability report pursuant to Section 22-1-6 NMSA 1978. The number of additional units to which a district is entitled under this section is computed in the following manner:

$$
\text { At-Risk Index x MEM }=\text { Units }
$$

where $M E M$ is equal to the total district membership, including early childhood education, full-time-equivalent membership and special education membership, and where the at-risk index is calculated in the following manner:

Refined At-Risk Cluster $\times 0.015=$ At-Risk Index.
B. To calculate the refined at-risk cluster, the department shall rank order each school district in the state on the basis of the district's percentage of membership used to determine its Title l allocation, the percentage of membership classified as limited English proficient using criteria established by the federal office of civil rights, the percentage of student mobility and the percentage of dropouts in the school district. Using this data, the department shall initially group districts into nine clusters using a neutral network computer analysis. Each school district shall be assigned a whole number from one to nine reflecting its initial cluster assignment, with higher need districts receiving a higher number and lower need districts receiving a lower number. This number shall be modified on the basis of a school district's relative position in the cluster and further refined through the use of a second neutral network computer analysis, a back propagation. Using the results of this analysis, the department shall refine the cluster assignment and the number assigned to each school district. The number obtained

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from this calculation is the refined at-risk cluster.
C. The department shall recalculate the at-risk index for each school district every two years."

Section 8. Section 22-8-25 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1981, Chapter 176, Section 5, as amended by Laws 1993, Chapter 226, Section 23 and also by Laws 1993, Chapter 231, Section 14) is amended to read:
"22-8-25. STATE EQUALIZATION GUARANTEE DISTRIBUTION.. DEFINITIONS.- DETERMINATI ON OF AMOUNT...
A. The state equalization guarantee distribution is that amount of money distributed to each school district to ensure that the school district's operating revenue, including its local and federal revenues as defined in this section, is at least equal to the school district's program cost.
B. "Local revenue", as used in this section, means ninety-five percent of receipts to the school district derived from that amount produced by a school district property tax applied at the rate of fifty cents (\$.50) to each one thousand dollars $(\$ 1,000)$ of net taxable value of property allocated to the school district and to the assessed value of products severed and sold in the school district as determined under the Oil and Gas Ad Valorem Production Tax Act and upon the assessed value of equipment in the school district as determined under the Oil and Gas Production Equipment Ad Valorem Tax Act.

## C. "Federal revenue", as used in this section, means

 ninety-five percent of receipts to the school district, excluding amounts which, if taken into account in the computation of the state equalization guarantee distribution, result, under federalI aw or regulations, in a reduction in or elimination of federal school funding otherwise receivable by the school district, derived from the following:
(1) the school district's share of forest reserve funds distributed in accordance with Section 22-8-33 NMSA 1978; and (2) grants from the federal government as assistance to those areas affected by federal activity authorized in accordance with Sections 236 through 240 of Title 20 of the United States Code (commonly known as "PL 874 funds") or an amount equal to the revenue the district was entitled to receive if no application was made for such funds but deducting from those grants the additional amounts to which school districts would be entitled because of the provisions of Subparagraph (D) of Paragraph (2) of Subsection (d) of Section 238 of Title 20 of the United States Code.
D. To determine the amount of the state equalization guarantee distribution, the state superintendent shall:
(1) calculate the number of program units to which each school district is entitled using the [ fortieth day of the school year, except for school districts with a MEM of 200 or less where the number of program units shall be calculated on the fortieth day membership of either the prior year or the current year, whichever is greater, for all programs except special education, which shall be calculated by using the membership on December 1 of the school year] basic program membership of the fortieth day for all programs: provided that special education program units shall be calculated using the membership in special education programs on December 1; or

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(2) calculate the number of program units to which a school district operating under an approved year-round school calendar is entitled using the basic program membership on an appropriate date established by the state boardi or
(3) calculate the number of program units to which a school district with a basic program MEM of 200 or Iess is entitled by using the basic program membership on the fortieth day of either the prior or the current year, whichever is greater; provided that special education program units shall be calculated using the membership in special education programs on December 1 of either the prior or the current year; and
[(3)] (4) using the results of the calculations in Paragraph (1), [ $0+$ (2) or (3) of this subsection and the instructional staff training and experience index from the October report of the prior school year, establish a total program cost of the school district;
[ (4)] (5) calculate the local and federal revenues as defined in this section;
[ (-5)] (6) deduct the sum of the calculations made in Paragraph [(4)] (5) of this subsection from the program cost established in Paragraph [(3)] (4) of this subsection; and
[(-6)] (7) deduct the total amount of guaranteed energy savings contract payments that the state superintendent determines will be made to the school district from the public school energy efficiency fund during the fiscal year for which the state equalization guarantee distribution is being computed.
E. The amount of the state equalization guarantee distribution to which a school district is entitled is the balance .116549 .2
remaining after the deductions made in Paragraphs [(5) and (6) and (7) of Subsection $D$ of this section.
F. The state equalization guarantee distribution shall be distributed prior to June 30 of each fiscal year. The calculation shall be based on the local and federal revenues specified in this section received from June 1 of the previous fiscal year through May 31 of the fiscal year for which the state equal ization guarantee distribution is being computed. In the event that a district has received more state equalization guarantee funds than its entitlement, a refund shall be made by the district to the state general fund.
G. Notwithstanding the methods of calculating the state equalization guarantee distribution in this section and Laws 1974, Chapter 8, Section 22, if a school district received funds under Section 2391 of Title 42 USCA and if the federal government takes into consideration grants authorized by Sections 236 through 240 of Title 20 of the United States Code and all other revenues available to the school district in determining the level of federal support for the school district for the sixty-fourth and succeeding fiscal years, the state equalization guarantee distribution for school districts receiving funds under this subsection shall be computed as follows:
fiscal year program cost excluding special education for the year for which the $x$ state equalization guarantee distribution is being computed prior fiscal year program cost excluding special education
prior fiscal year
state equalization
guarantee distribution
excluding special
education

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plus special education funding in accordance with Paragraphs (1), [ $\theta+$ ] (2) [ad] or (3) and (4) of Subsection $D$ of this section and Section 22-8-21 NMSA 1978 plus an amount that would be produced by applying a rate of eight dollars forty-two and one-half cents (\$8.425) to each one thousand dollars (\$1,000) of net taxable value of property as defined in the Property Tax Code for property taxation purposes in the school district and to each one thousand dollars (\$1,000) of the assessed value of products severed and sold in the school district as determined under the Oil and Gas Ad Valorem Production Tax Act and upon the assessed value of equipment in the school district as determined under the Oil and Gas Production Equipment Ad Valorem Tax Act and then reduced by the total amount of guaranteed energy savings contract payments, if any, that the state superintendent determines will be made to the school district from the public school energy efficiency fund during the fiscal year for which the state equalization guarantee distribution is being computed, equals the fiscal year state equal ization guarantee distribution for the year for which the state equalization guarantee distribution is being computed.

If at any time grants from the federal government as assistance to those areas affected by federal activity authorized in accordance with Sections 236 through 240 of Title 20 of the United States Code (commonly known as "PL 874 funds") are reduced or are no longer available, the state equalization guarantee distribution shall be computed by the formula contained in this subsection plus an increase by fifty percent of the amount the prior year's PL 874 funds exceed PL 874 funds for the year for which the state equalization guarantee distribution is being
computed."
Section 9. TEMPORARY PROVISION.--In the event that the program units of Section 22-8-18 NMSA 1978 as amended by this act are not fully funded, no school district shall receive less than its previous year's total program cost due to the change in the program cost calculation with the program cost adjusted for the establishment of a high school in Rio Rancho.

Section 10. APPROPRIATION.-.Fifty-eight million seven hundred thousand dollars ( $\$ 58,700,000$ ) is appropriated from the general fund to the state equalization guarantee distribution for expenditure in fiscal year 1998 for the purpose of funding additional program units authorized by law. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 1998 shall revert to the general fund.

Section 11. EffECTIVE DATE... The effective date of the provisions of this act is July 1, 1997.

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# State of New Mexico House of Representatives 

FORTY-THIRD LEGI SLATURE<br>FIRST SESSION, 1997

March 13, 1997

Your APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCE COMMITTEE, to whom has been referred

HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILL 215
has had it under consideration and reports same with ecommendation that it DO PASS, amended as follows:

1. On page 1, Iine 16, strike "; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION".
2. On page 17, Iine 11, strike "neutral" and insert in lieu hereof "neural".
3. On page 17, Iine 17, strike "neutral" and insert in lieu hereof "neural".

