

## HOUSE BILL NO. HB0164

Alternative schools.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Freeman, Baker, Patton,  
Paxton and Sommers and Senator(s) Cooper,  
Craft and Dockstader

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to school finance; eliminating the  
2 moratorium imposed upon alternative schools included within  
3 a district's configuration of schools under the block grant  
4 funding model, subject to specified conditions; granting  
5 rulemaking authority; and providing for an effective date.

6

7 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

8

9 **Section 1.** W.S. 21-13-309(m)(v)(B) by creating a new  
10 subdivision (IV) is amended to read:

11

12 **21-13-309. Determination of amount to be included in**  
13 **foundation program for each district.**

14

1           (m) In determining the amount to be included in the  
2 foundation program for each district, the state  
3 superintendent shall:

4  
5           (v) Based upon ADM computations and identified  
6 school configurations within each district pursuant to  
7 paragraph (iv) of this subsection, compute the foundation  
8 program amount for each district as prescribed by the  
9 education resource block grant model adopted by the Wyoming  
10 legislature as defined under W.S. 21-13-101(a)(xiv), as  
11 contained within the spreadsheets and accompanying reports  
12 referenced under W.S. 21-13-101(a)(xvii), on file with the  
13 secretary of state and maintained by the state  
14 superintendent pursuant to W.S. 21-2-202(e). The following  
15 criteria shall be used by the state superintendent in the  
16 administration of the education resource block grant model:

17  
18           (B) Alternative schools qualifying for  
19 separate consideration under the education resource block  
20 grant model may be established by a school district for  
21 offering educational programs to students with educational  
22 needs which the district finds are not appropriately met by  
23 other schools in the district, excluding charter schools  
24 established under W.S. 21-3-301 through 21-3-314.

1 Alternative schools included within a district's  
2 configuration of schools identified under paragraph (iv) of  
3 this subsection shall for purposes of the education  
4 resource block grant model:

5

6 (IV) On and after July 1, 2013, and if  
7 not qualifying under subdivision (I) of this subparagraph,  
8 be approved by the state department of education subject to  
9 the following:

10

11 (1) Completion of a formal  
12 evaluation of the school district's proposed programs to  
13 ensure provision of a continuum of learning supports and  
14 classroom interventions addressing the needs of children in  
15 need of academic support within the district which is  
16 comprised of the following:

17

18 a. Criteria for identifying  
19 students in accordance with and subject to research-based  
20 indicators;

21

22 b. A school-wide plan that  
23 defines interventions, programs and services required to  
24 address special needs or individual learning plans for each

1 identified student. All plans shall be continuously  
2 monitored by the district;

3  
4 c. Use of quality learning  
5 supports and classroom interventions based upon the needs  
6 of the student population served by the district and  
7 supported by and based upon research-based practices and  
8 strategies;

9  
10 d. Data based predictors to  
11 identify students which may drop out of school and learning  
12 supports and classroom strategies to address this student  
13 population.

14  
15 (2) A formal evaluation of the  
16 school's programs is conducted by the district not less  
17 than twice within three (3) years, which is comprised of  
18 the continuum of learning supports and classroom  
19 interventions specified under subdivision (IV)(1) of this  
20 subparagraph. The evaluation shall measure the  
21 effectiveness of the school's programs in meeting the needs  
22 of those student populations attending the school. Formal  
23 evaluations conducted under this subparagraph shall be  
24 reported to and approved by the district board and reported

1 to the state department of education together with action  
2 plans addressing necessary program improvements;

3  
4 (3) Student achievement within  
5 the school is reported annually by the district to the  
6 state department of education, as measured by quality  
7 indicators specified by rule and regulation of the  
8 department which reflect the components of the continuum of  
9 learning supports and classroom interventions specified  
10 under subdivision (IV) (1) of this subparagraph;

11  
12 (4) Educational space for the  
13 school is provided through facilities operated and  
14 maintained by the district and approved by the school  
15 facilities department as meeting statewide adequacy  
16 standards. After two (2) evaluations by the state  
17 department of education under subdivision (IV) (3) of this  
18 subparagraph that demonstrate academic progress or success  
19 of an alternative school's educational program, the  
20 alternative school shall be included in the district's five  
21 (5) year plan required by W.S. 21-15-116 and the school's  
22 long term facility needs shall be evaluated by the school  
23 facilities department.

24

1       **Section 2.** This act is effective July 1, 2013.

2

3

(END)