

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0138

School finance-class sizes 5.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Northrup, Brown, Burkhardt
and Madden and Senator(s) Driskill

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to education; modifying education resource
2 block grant model class size components; amending class
3 size requirements; amending foundation account eligibility
4 requirements for class size; and providing for an effective
5 date.

6

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

8

9 **Section 1.** W.S. 21-9-101(d) and 21-13-307(a)(iv) are
10 amended to read:

11

12 **21-9-101. Educational programs for schools;**
13 **standards; core of knowledge and skills; special needs**
14 **programs; class size requirements; cocurricular activities.**

15

1 (d) In addition to subsections (b) and (c) of this
2 section, each school district within this state shall
3 endeavor to maintain when practicable, in kindergarten
4 through grade three (3) within the district, an average
5 class size of no more than ~~sixteen (16)~~ eighteen (18)
6 students per teacher, excluding children with disabilities
7 who spend more than fifty percent (50%) of their time
8 outside of regular classroom instruction.

9
10 **21-13-307. Eligibility to share in distribution of**
11 **money from foundation account; mandatory financial**
12 **reporting.**

13
14 (a) Each district which meets the following
15 requirements is eligible to share in the distribution of
16 funds from the foundation account:

17
18 (iv) The district shall provide evidence to the
19 state superintendent that the district has maintained an
20 average student-teacher ratio of not greater than ~~sixteen~~
21 ~~(16)~~ eighteen (18) to one (1) for the aggregate of all
22 classes in kindergarten through grade three (3) in the
23 district in the preceding school year. The requirement of

1 this paragraph may be waived by the department of education
2 for any district that demonstrates insufficient school
3 facility capacity, positive school performance, positive
4 student achievement or for other reasons related to the
5 delivery of the education program to students. This
6 paragraph shall not apply to charter schools established
7 under W.S. 21-3-301 through 21-3-314 or schools designated
8 as exceeding expectations pursuant to W.S.
9 21-2-204(e)(i)(A). Schools designated as exceeding
10 expectations pursuant to W.S. 21-2-204(e)(i)(A) shall
11 notify the department annually of the student teacher
12 ratios for the aggregate of all classes in kindergarten
13 through grade three (3) in the district in the preceding
14 year. The department shall compute the student-teacher
15 ratio and report it to each district not later than March 1
16 of each year. To obtain a waiver under this paragraph, a
17 school district shall apply to the department not later
18 than March 15 of each year. The application shall be based
19 on the student-teacher ratio reported by the department of
20 education, together with any other information required by
21 the department. The department shall approve or deny an
22 application for a waiver under this paragraph not later
23 than April 10 of that year. A waiver approved under this

1 paragraph shall be effective for the school year
2 immediately following the application and approval.

3
4 **Section 2.** 2011 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 185,
5 Attachment "A"(b)(ii) and (iii) is amended to read:

6
7 ATTACHMENT "A"

8
9 ATTACHMENT "A" CONTAINS AN ENUMERATION OF
10 EDUCATION RESOURCE BLOCK GRANT MODEL COMPONENTS
11 SUMMARIZING AND EXECUTING RECOMMENDATIONS
12 CONTAINED IN THE 2010 COST OF EDUCATION STUDY AS
13 FOLLOWS:

14
15 (b) Notwithstanding components specified in
16 the 2010 cost of education study accepted by the
17 legislature, the Wyoming education resource block
18 grant model components and the resourcing for
19 those components, as enacted by the legislature,
20 shall be as follows:

1 (ii) Class size: ~~16~~18 for grades
2 Kindergarten
3 through 5;
4 ~~21~~22 for grades 6
5 through 12 in
6 school year
7 2017-2018, 23 in
8 2018-2019 and 24 in
9 2019-2020 and each
10 year thereafter.

11
12 (iii) Core teachers: Elementary school
13 ADM divided by ~~16~~
14 18;
15 Middle school ADM
16 divided by ~~21~~22 in
17 school year
18 2017-2018, 23 in
19 2018-2019 and 24 in
20 2019-2020 and each
21 year thereafter;
22 High school ADM
23 divided by ~~21~~22 in

1 school year

2 2017-2018, 23 in

3 2018-2019 and 24 in

4 2019-2020 and each

5 year thereafter.

7 **Section 3.** This act is effective July 1, 2017.

9 (END)