HOUSE BILL NO. HB0040

School finance - model recalibration.
Sponsored by: Joint Education Interim Committee

A BILL

for

AN ACT relating to school finance; creating the select committee on school finance recalibration; providing for a study to recalculate the education resource block grant model; authorizing the use of consultants; requiring a report; providing an appropriation; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1.

(a) There is created the select committee on school finance recalibration consisting of the following members:

(i) Six (6) members of the Wyoming senate appointed by the president of the senate;
(ii) Six (6) members of the Wyoming house of representatives appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives.

(b) At least two (2) members from each house shall be from the minority party.

(c) The president of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives shall select the select committee co-chairmen. The legislative service office shall staff the select committee.

(d) The select committee shall undertake a study to recalibrate the education resource block grant model as required by W.S. 21-13-309(t) to determine if modifications are necessary to ensure the model remains cost-based in light of changing conditions and modifications to law. The select committee may work with professional consultant experts for model recalibration. The legislative service office, subject to the approval of management council, shall retain professional consulting experts for the purposes of this act.
(e) The select committee shall report its recommendations and any associated legislation to the legislature by December 31, 2020. The select committee may introduce legislation as provided in W.S. 28-8-104(e).

(f) Appointments shall be made under this section not later than March 31, 2020. The select committee shall remain in existence until December 31, 2020. Any vacancy occurring on the select committee shall be filled without delay by the president or speaker, as appropriate.

(g) The department of education, other state agencies, school districts and the school data advisory committee established under W.S. 21-2-203(d) shall collect and provide information requested by the committee or professional consultant experts working with the committee.

(h) There is appropriated eighty thousand dollars ($80,000.00) from the general fund to the legislative service office for the purposes of providing salary, including salary for the chairmen under W.S. 28-5-101(e)(i), mileage and per diem to members of the
select committee on school finance recalibration and for other expenses of the select committee authorized by law or policy of the legislature. This appropriation shall be for the period beginning with the effective date of this act and ending June 30, 2021. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30, 2021.

Section 2. This act is effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.