

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 52nd Legislature (2009)

3 HOUSE BILL 2160

By: Buck

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5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to school finance; requiring the
8 Legislature to fund common schools at an amount equal
9 to the per-pupil expenditure average of the
10 surrounding states; directing the State Board of
11 Equalization to annually determine the per-pupil
12 expenditures for the surrounding states; establishing
13 calculation; directing the State Board of
14 Equalization to annually determine the total
15 statewide enrollment; providing for calculation of
16 minimum funding amount; establishing full
17 implementation date; requiring incremental funding
18 increases; making incremental funding increases
19 subject to certain growth in the General Revenue Fund
20 revenues; providing definitions; providing for
21 codification; and providing an effective date.

22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

23 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
24 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 9.12 of Title 62, unless there
is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

25 A. The Legislature shall designate and provide funds for the
26 support of common schools to provide for an annual state per-pupil
27 expenditure in an amount that is at least equal to the average of
28 the annual per-pupil expenditures for the surrounding states,

1 subject to the General Revenue Fund growth requirements in
2 subsection D of this section.

3 B. The State Board of Equalization shall obtain annually from
4 the surrounding states the most recently determined annual per-pupil
5 expenditure for that state. The Board shall calculate the average
6 of the annual per-pupil expenditures of the surrounding states by
7 adding together the most recently determined annual per-pupil
8 expenditures of each surrounding state and dividing by six. The
9 Board shall certify the resulting number to the Legislature as the
10 annual average per-pupil expenditure of the surrounding states.

11 C. The State Board of Equalization shall determine annually the
12 number of pupils in the state using the total statewide enrollment
13 for the preceding year. The Board shall certify the number of
14 pupils in the state to the Legislature. The number of pupils in the
15 state multiplied by the annual average per-pupil expenditure of the
16 surrounding states shall define the minimum amount of funds that the
17 Legislature shall designate and provide each year for the support of
18 common schools, subject to the General Revenue Fund growth
19 requirements in subsection D of this section.

20 D. 1. The funding required in this section shall be fully
21 implemented no later than the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, and
22 each fiscal year thereafter as provided for in this subsection.

23 2. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010 and each fiscal
24 year thereafter until the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, the

1 annual state per-pupil expenditure shall increase by ten percent
2 (10%) of the difference between the annual state per-pupil
3 expenditure and the annual average per-pupil expenditure of the
4 surrounding states. The increase will only occur if for each year
5 the State Board of Equalization determines that any increase between
6 the final itemized estimate of General Revenue Fund revenues made by
7 the State Board at the February meeting preceding the beginning of
8 the fiscal year for which that estimate is made, which is the same
9 fiscal year during which the funding required in this section is to
10 be implemented, and the then current itemized estimate of General
11 Revenue Fund revenues made by the State Board of Equalization for
12 the fiscal year ending on June 30 immediately following such
13 February meeting is three percent (3%) or greater. If the General
14 Revenue Fund growth does not occur during a fiscal year, the annual
15 state per-pupil expenditure for that fiscal year shall not increase
16 and shall remain at the previous year level.

17 E. For purposes of this section:

18 1. "Surrounding states" means Missouri, Texas, Kansas,
19 Arkansas, Colorado, and New Mexico; and

20 2. "Expenditure" means the expenditures for the day-to-day
21 operations of schools and school districts, including instruction,
22 support services, and noninstruction services, but not including
23 capital outlays or debt-service expenditures.

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SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2009.

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