

SENATE BILL NO. 102

INTRODUCED BY T. FACEY

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A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT INCREASING THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PUPIL-INSTRUCTION-RELATED DAYS PER SCHOOL YEAR; AMENDING SECTIONS 20-1-304 AND 20-9-311, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Section 20-1-304, MCA, is amended to read:

"20-1-304. Pupil-instruction-related day. A pupil-instruction-related day is a day of teacher activities devoted to improving the quality of instruction. The activities may include but are not limited to inservice training, attending state meetings of teacher organizations, and conducting parent conferences. A maximum of 79 pupil-instruction-related days may be conducted during a school year, with a minimum of 3 of the days for instructional and professional development meetings or other appropriate inservice training, if the days are planned in accordance with the policy adopted by the board of public education. The days may not be included as a part of the required minimum aggregate hours of pupil instruction."

Section 2. Section 20-9-311, MCA, is amended to read:

"20-9-311. Calculation of average number belonging (ANB) -- three-year averaging. (1) Average number belonging (ANB) must be computed for each budget unit as follows:

(a) compute an average enrollment by adding a count of regularly enrolled full-time pupils who were enrolled as of the first Monday in October of the prior school fiscal year to a count of regularly enrolled pupils on February 1 of the prior school fiscal year, or the next school day if those dates do not fall on a school day, and divide the sum by two; and

(b) multiply the average enrollment calculated in subsection (1)(a) by the sum of 180 and the approved pupil-instruction-related days for the current school fiscal year and divide by 180.

(2) For the purpose of calculating ANB under subsection (1), up to 79 approved pupil-instruction-related days may be included in the calculation.

(3) When a school district has approval to operate less than the minimum aggregate hours under



1 20-9-806, the total ANB must be calculated in accordance with the provisions of 20-9-805.

2 (4) (a) For the purpose of calculating ANB, enrollment in an education program:

3 (i) from 180 to 359 aggregate hours of pupil instruction per school year is counted as one-quarter-time
4 enrollment;

5 (ii) from 360 to 539 aggregate hours of pupil instruction per school year is counted as half-time
6 enrollment;

7 (iii) from 540 to 719 aggregate hours of pupil instruction per school year is counted as three-quarter-time
8 enrollment; and

9 (iv) 720 or more aggregate hours of pupil instruction per school year is counted as full-time enrollment.

10 (b) Enrollment in a program intended to provide fewer than 180 aggregate hours of pupil instruction per
11 school year may not be included for purposes of ANB.

12 (c) Enrollment in a self-paced program or course may be converted to an hourly equivalent based on
13 the hours necessary and appropriate to provide the course within a regular classroom schedule.

14 (d) A pupil in kindergarten through grade 12 who is concurrently enrolled in more than one public school,
15 program, or district may not be counted as more than one full-time pupil for ANB purposes.

16 (5) For a district that is transitioning from a half-time to a full-time kindergarten program, the state
17 superintendent shall count kindergarten enrollment in the previous year as full-time enrollment for the purpose
18 of calculating ANB for the elementary programs offering full-time kindergarten in the current year. For the
19 purposes of calculating the 3-year ANB, the superintendent of public instruction shall count the kindergarten
20 enrollment as one-half enrollment and then add the additional kindergarten ANB to the 3-year average ANB for
21 districts offering full-time kindergarten.

22 (6) When a pupil has been absent, with or without excuse, for more than 10 consecutive school days,
23 the pupil may not be included in the enrollment count used in the calculation of the ANB unless the pupil resumes
24 attendance prior to the day of the enrollment count.

25 (7) The enrollment of preschool pupils, as provided in 20-7-117, may not be included in the ANB
26 calculations.

27 (8) The average number belonging of the regularly enrolled, full-time pupils for the public schools of a
28 district must be based on the aggregate of all the regularly enrolled, full-time pupils attending the schools of the
29 district, except that the ANB is calculated as a separate budget unit when:

30 (a) (i) a school of the district is located more than 20 miles beyond the incorporated limits of a city or town

1 located in the district and at least 20 miles from any other school of the district, the number of regularly enrolled,
2 full-time pupils of the school must be calculated as a separate budget unit for ANB purposes and the district must
3 receive a basic entitlement for the school calculated separately from the other schools of the district;

4 (ii) a school of the district is located more than 20 miles from any other school of the district and
5 incorporated territory is not involved in the district, the number of regularly enrolled, full-time pupils of the school
6 must be calculated separately for ANB purposes and the district must receive a basic entitlement for the school
7 calculated separately from the other schools of the district;

8 (iii) the superintendent of public instruction approves an application not to aggregate when conditions
9 exist affecting transportation, such as poor roads, mountains, rivers, or other obstacles to travel, or when any
10 other condition exists that would result in an unusual hardship to the pupils of the school if they were transported
11 to another school, the number of regularly enrolled, full-time pupils of the school must be calculated separately
12 for ANB purposes and the district must receive a basic entitlement for the school calculated separately from the
13 other schools of the district; or

14 (iv) two or more districts consolidate or annex under the provisions of 20-6-422 or 20-6-423, the ANB and
15 the basic entitlements of the component districts must be calculated separately for a period of 3 years following
16 the consolidation or annexation. Each district shall retain a percentage of its basic entitlement for 3 additional
17 years as follows:

18 (A) 75% of the basic entitlement for the fourth year;

19 (B) 50% of the basic entitlement for the fifth year; and

20 (C) 25% of the basic entitlement for the sixth year.

21 (b) a junior high school has been approved and accredited as a junior high school, all of the regularly
22 enrolled, full-time pupils of the junior high school must be considered as high school district pupils for ANB
23 purposes;

24 (c) a middle school has been approved and accredited, all pupils below the 7th grade must be
25 considered elementary school pupils for ANB purposes and the 7th and 8th grade pupils must be considered high
26 school pupils for ANB purposes; or

27 (d) a school has not been accredited by the board of public education, the regularly enrolled, full-time
28 pupils attending the nonaccredited school are not eligible for average number belonging calculation purposes,
29 nor will an average number belonging for the nonaccredited school be used in determining the BASE funding
30 program for the district.

1 (9) The district shall provide the superintendent of public instruction with semiannual reports of school
2 attendance, absence, and enrollment for regularly enrolled students, using a format determined by the
3 superintendent.

4 (10) (a) Except as provided in subsections (10)(b) and (10)(c), enrollment in a basic education program
5 provided by the district through any combination of onsite or offsite instruction may be included for ANB purposes
6 only if the pupil is offered access to the complete range of educational services for the basic education program
7 required by the accreditation standards adopted by the board of public education.

8 (b) Access to school programs and services for a student placed by the trustees in a private program
9 for special education may be limited to the programs and services specified in an approved individual education
10 plan supervised by the district.

11 (c) Access to school programs and services for a student who is incarcerated in a facility, other than a
12 youth detention center, may be limited to the programs and services provided by the district at district expense
13 under an agreement with the incarcerating facility.

14 (d) This subsection (10) may not be construed to require a school district to offer access to activities
15 governed by an organization having jurisdiction over interscholastic activities, contests, and tournaments to a
16 pupil who is not otherwise eligible under the rules of the organization.

17 (11) A district may include only, for ANB purposes, an enrolled pupil who is otherwise eligible under this
18 title and who is:

19 (a) a resident of the district or a nonresident student admitted by trustees under a student attendance
20 agreement and who is attending a school of the district;

21 (b) unable to attend school due to a medical reason certified by a medical doctor and receiving
22 individualized educational services supervised by the district, at district expense, at a home or facility that does
23 not offer an educational program;

24 (c) unable to attend school due to the student's incarceration in a facility, other than a youth detention
25 center, and who is receiving individualized educational services supervised by the district, at district expense, at
26 a home or facility that does not offer an educational program;

27 (d) receiving special education and related services, other than day treatment, under a placement by the
28 trustees at a private nonsectarian school or private program if the pupil's services are provided at the district's
29 expense under an approved individual education plan supervised by the district;

30 (e) participating in the running start program at district expense under 20-9-706;

1 (f) receiving educational services, provided by the district, using appropriately licensed district staff at
2 a private residential program or private residential facility licensed by the department of public health and human
3 services;

4 (g) enrolled in an educational program or course provided at district expense using electronic or offsite
5 delivery methods, including but not limited to tutoring, distance learning programs, online programs, and
6 technology delivered learning programs, while attending a school of the district or any other nonsectarian offsite
7 instructional setting with the approval of the trustees of the district. The pupil shall:

8 (i) meet the residency requirements for that district as provided in 1-1-215;

9 (ii) live in the district and must be eligible for educational services under the Individuals With Disabilities
10 Education Act or under 29 U.S.C. 794; or

11 (iii) attend school in the district under a mandatory attendance agreement as provided in 20-5-321.

12 (h) a resident of the district attending the Montana youth challenge program or a Montana job corps
13 program under an interlocal agreement with the district under 20-9-707.

14 (12) A district shall, for ANB purposes, calculate the enrollment of an eligible Montana youth challenge
15 program participant as half-time enrollment.

16 (13) (a) For an elementary or high school district that has been in existence for 3 years or more, the
17 district's maximum general fund budget and BASE budget for the ensuing school fiscal year must be calculated
18 using the current year ANB for all budget units or the 3-year average ANB for all budget units, whichever
19 generates the greatest maximum general fund budget.

20 (b) For a K-12 district that has been in existence for 3 years or more, the district's maximum general fund
21 budget and BASE budget for the ensuing school fiscal year must be calculated separately for the elementary and
22 high school programs pursuant to subsection (13)(a) and then combined.

23 (14) The term "3-year ANB" means an average ANB over the most recent 3-year period, calculated by:

24 (a) adding the ANB for the budget unit for the ensuing school fiscal year to the ANB for each of the
25 previous 2 school fiscal years; and

26 (b) dividing the sum calculated under subsection (14)(a) by three."
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28 **NEW SECTION. Section 3. Effective date.** [This act] is effective July 1, 2013.

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