

Senator Aaron Osmond proposes the following substitute bill:

PUBLIC SCHOOL DROPOUT RECOVERY

2015 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Aaron Osmond

House Sponsor: _____

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill provides for public school dropout recovery services.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ defines terms;
- ▶ requires a local education agency (LEA) to:
 - create a restricted account consisting of certain funds; and
 - use the funds in the restricted account to provide dropout recovery services;
- ▶ provides that an LEA may contract with a provider to provide dropout recovery services subject to certain conditions; and
- ▶ requires the State Board of Education to:
 - audit an LEA's use of the funds in the restricted account; and
 - make rules.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:



26 ENACTS:

27 [53A-17a-172](#), Utah Code Annotated 1953

28

29 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

30 Section 1. Section [53A-17a-172](#) is enacted to read:

31 **[53A-17a-172](#). Use of minimum school program funds for dropout recovery**
32 **services.**

33 (1) As used in this section:

34 (a) "Adequate monthly progress" means:

35 (i) an amount of progress that is measurable on a monthly basis and that, if continued
36 for a full 12 months, would result in the same amount of academic credit being awarded to an
37 eligible student as would be awarded to a regularly enrolled full-time student during the same
38 time period;

39 (ii) completion of one-quarter credit of work readiness course work; or

40 (iii) completion of one-quarter credit of college readiness course work.

41 (b) "Attainment goal" means:

42 (i) for an eligible student up to 18 years of age:

43 (A) earning a high school diploma;

44 (B) earning a Utah High School Completion Diploma, as defined in State Board of
45 Education rule; or

46 (C) earning an industry-based certificate that is likely to result in job placement; or

47 (ii) for an eligible student over 18 years of age, earning a high school diploma as
48 required under Section [53A-12-101](#).

49 (c) "Average daily membership" means the same as that term is defined in Section
50 [53A-17a-103](#).

51 (d) "Cohort" means a group of students, defined by the year the group enters ninth
52 grade.

53 (e) "College readiness course work" means course work that prepares a student to
54 succeed in a post-secondary environment, such as course work designed to teach time
55 management skills and study skills.

56 (f) "Eligible student" means a student:

57 (i) who has withdrawn from a secondary school prior to earning a diploma with no
58 legitimate reason for departure or absence from school;

59 (ii) who has been dropped from average daily membership under the 10-day rule as
60 described in rules established by the State Board of Education; and

61 (iii) (A) whose cohort has not yet graduated; or

62 (B) whose cohort graduated in the previous school year.

63 (g) "Local education agency" or "LEA" means a school district or charter school.

64 (h) "Work readiness course work" means course work that prepares a student to
65 succeed in a work environment, such as:

66 (i) career and technical education courses;

67 (ii) career exploration and planning courses; and

68 (iii) course work designed to teach the soft skills that are necessary to succeed in a
69 work environment.

70 (2) An LEA shall:

71 (a) create a restricted account consisting of the funds described in Subsection (2)(b);

72 (b) deposit the following funds into the restricted account described in Subsection

73 (2)(a):

74 (i) 30% of the value of one kindergarten through grade 12 weighted pupil unit for each
75 eligible student that is classified as an eligible student during the current school year; and

76 (ii) the funds generated by counting an eligible student as part of the LEA's average
77 daily membership as described in Subsection (6); and

78 (c) use the funds in the LEA's restricted account described in Subsection (2)(a) to
79 provide dropout recovery services as described in this section.

80 (3) An LEA shall ensure that dropout recovery services provided under this section
81 include:

82 (a) recruiting eligible students;

83 (b) allowing an eligible student to enroll in a dropout recovery program at any point
84 during the calendar year;

85 (c) working with an eligible student to identify and mitigate social barriers to regular
86 school attendance;

87 (d) developing a learning plan, in consultation with the eligible student, to:

- 88 (i) identify an attainment goal; and
- 89 (ii) specify adequate monthly progress toward the attainment goal;
- 90 (e) monitoring an eligible student's progress against the eligible student's learning plan;
- 91 (f) providing tiered interventions for an eligible student who is not making adequate
- 92 monthly progress; and
- 93 (g) delivering dropout recovery services throughout the calendar year.

94 (4) Subject to Subsection (5), an LEA may contract with a provider to provide dropout
95 recovery services.

96 (5) An LEA that contracts with a provider to provide dropout recovery services shall
97 ensure that:

98 (a) the provider has a demonstrated record of effectiveness engaging with and
99 recovering eligible students;

100 (b) a contract with a provider described in Subsection (4):

101 (i) requires the provider to:

102 (A) provide the services described in Subsection (3); and

103 (B) regularly report an eligible student's progress to the LEA;

104 (ii) specifies that the LEA will only reimburse the provider for months during which an
105 eligible student has made adequate monthly progress toward the attainment goal identified in
106 the eligible student's learning plan; and

107 (iii) allows the provider to disenroll an eligible student who is not making adequate
108 monthly progress toward the attainment goal identified in the eligible student's learning plan
109 for three consecutive months.

110 (6) (a) Subject to Subsection (6)(b), an LEA may count a student who was classified as
111 an eligible student during a previous school year in average daily membership for the current
112 school year if the eligible student continues to receive dropout recovery services during the
113 current school year as described in this section.

114 (b) An LEA may only count a student described in Subsection (6)(a) in average daily
115 membership for months during which the student makes adequate monthly progress.

116 (7) The State Board of Education shall:

117 (a) make rules specifying procedures for calculating average daily membership under
118 Subsection (6);

119 (b) ensure that the amount accounted for under Subsection (6)(a):
120 (i) includes only the value of the kindergarten through grade 12 weighted pupil unit;
121 and
122 (ii) excludes add-on weighted pupil units; and
123 (c) audit LEAs to ensure that the funds described in Subsection (2) are only used as
124 described in this section.