

SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION AMENDMENTS

2018 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: David P. Hinkins

House Sponsor: Michael E. Noel

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill provides for reimbursement for certain student transportation costs.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ defines terms; and
- ▶ subject to legislative appropriations, requires the State Board of Education to provide a reimbursement for student transportation costs incurred by certain district schools and charter schools.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

ENACTS:

53F-5-209, Utah Code Annotated 1953

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

Section 1. Section **53F-5-209** is enacted to read:

53F-5-209. Rural school transportation reimbursement.

(1) As used in this section:

(a) "Eligible school" means a district school or a charter school:

(i) that is located in a county of the fourth, fifth, or sixth class, as defined in Section

30 [17-50-501](#);

31 (ii) in which at least 65% of the students enrolled in the school qualify for free or
32 reduced price lunch; and

33 (iii) that has provided transportation to and from the school for a regular school day for
34 students for at least five years.

35 (b) "Local board" means:

36 (i) for a school district, the local school board; or

37 (ii) for a charter school, the charter school governing board.

38 (2) A local board may annually submit a request to the State Board of Education to
39 receive reimbursement for an expense that:

40 (a) the local board incurs transporting a student to or from an eligible school for the
41 regular school day; and

42 (b) the local board does not pay using state funding for pupil transportation described
43 in Section [53F-2-402](#) or [53F-2-403](#).

44 (3) (a) Subject to legislative appropriations, and except as provided in Subsection
45 (3)(b), the State Board of Education shall reimburse a local school board for an expense
46 included in a request described in Subsection (2).

47 (b) If the legislative appropriation for this section is insufficient to fund an expense in a
48 request received under Subsection (2), the State Board of Education may reduce a local school
49 board's reimbursement in accordance with the rules described in Subsection (4).

50 (4) In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, the
51 State Board of Education shall make rules that establish:

52 (a) requirements for information a local school board shall include in a reimbursement
53 request described in Subsection (2);

54 (b) a deadline by which a local school board shall submit a request described in
55 Subsection (2); and

56 (c) a formula for reducing a local school board's allocation under Subsection (3).

57 (5) Nothing in this section affects a school district's allocation for pupil transportation

58 under Sections [53F-2-402](#) and [53F-2-403](#).