

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0097

Public school financial transparency.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Illoway, Childers, Madden,
Pedersen and Teeters and Senator(s) Coe,
Jennings and Landen

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to schools; providing for the establishment
2 of a uniform website database to disclose to the public
3 financial activities of public schools as specified;
4 providing an appropriation; authorizing additional
5 positions; and providing for effective dates.

6

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

8

9 **Section 1.** W.S. 21-3-601 is created to read:

10

11

ARTICLE 6

12

PUBLIC SCHOOL FINANCIAL TRANSPARENCY

13

14 **21-3-601. Creation of searchable expenditure and**
15 **revenue website databases.**

16

1 (a) Every local education provider shall cooperate
2 with the department of education to develop, maintain and
3 make publicly available a single, searchable expenditure and
4 revenue website database available through the use of the
5 internet, World Wide Web or similar proprietary or common
6 carrier electronic system, that allows the public at no
7 cost to review information concerning monies received and
8 expended by each local education provider.

9

10 (b) The website database shall include the following
11 data concerning each single expenditure of over one thousand
12 dollars (\$1,000.00) made by a local education provider:

13

14 (i) The amount of the expenditure;

15

16 (ii) The date of the expenditure;

17

18 (iii) A description of the purpose for the
19 expenditure; and

20

21 (iv) The name and principal location or address
22 of the person receiving monies, except that information
23 concerning a payment to an employee of the local education

1 provider shall identify the individual employee by name and
2 business address or location only.

3

4 (c) The website database shall include the school
5 district budgets provided to the department of education
6 pursuant to W.S. 16-4-111. The department may display the
7 budget of each school district in a manner which it
8 determines best identifies the source of revenues to the
9 district, identified as provided by the state, the federal
10 government, local resources as determined under W.S.
11 21-13-310, other revenues and a combination of the
12 foregoing. Each school district budget display shall show:

13

14 (i) Total revenues and expenditures in the last
15 completed budget year compared with total revenues and
16 expenditures for the current budget year;

17

18 (ii) Cash reserves in the last completed budget
19 year and cash reserves for the current budget year.

20

21 (d) The revenue and expenditure data shall be provided
22 in an open structured data format that:

23

24 (i) May be downloaded by the user; and

1

2 (ii) Allows the user to systematically sort,
3 search and access all data.

4

5 (e) The website database shall contain only
6 information that is a public record or that is not
7 confidential or otherwise protected from public disclosure
8 pursuant to state or federal law.

9

10 (f) The local education provider shall cooperate with
11 the department to allow:

12

13 (i) Updates of the financial data contained on
14 the website database at least monthly;

15

16 (ii) Archive of the financial data, which shall
17 remain accessible and searchable on the website database.

18

19 (g) As used in this section:

20

21 (i) "Local education provider" means:

22

23 (A) A school district organized and existing
24 pursuant to W.S. 21-3-101 et seq.;

1

2 (B) A board of cooperative educational
3 services; and

4

5 (C) A public charter school authorized
6 pursuant to W.S. 21-3-301 et seq.

7

8 (ii) "Person" means as defined in W.S. 8-1-102;

9

10 (iii) "Public record" shall have the same meaning
11 as set forth in W.S. 16-4-201 through 16-4-205.

12

13 **Section 2.** W.S. 21-3-110(a) by creating a new
14 paragraph (xxx) and 21-20-107(a) by creating a new
15 paragraph (v) are amended to read:

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17 **21-3-110. Duties of boards of trustees.**

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19 (a) The board of trustees in each school district
20 shall:

21

22 (xxx) Cooperate with the department of education
23 to establish and maintain a financial disclosure database
24 as required by W.S. 21-3-601, including disclosure of

1 financial data of any charter school authorized by the
2 district.

3

4 **21-20-107. Powers and duties of board of cooperative**
5 **educational services.**

6

7 (a) Each board of trustees of cooperative educational
8 services shall:

9

10 (v) Cooperate with the department of education
11 to establish and maintain a financial disclosure database
12 as required by W.S. 21-3-601.

13

14 **Section 3.**

15

16 (a) There is appropriated nine hundred eight-five
17 thousand dollars (\$985,000.00) from the general fund to the
18 department of education for purposes of this act. This
19 appropriation shall be for the period beginning with the
20 effective date of this section and ending June 30, 2012.

21

22 (b) Of this appropriation up to seven hundred fifteen
23 thousand dollars (\$715,000.00) may be expended for the
24 purpose of contractual services required to perform the

1 functions specified in this act. The balance of the
2 appropriation may be expended for up to two (2) data
3 technical staff positions as necessary to implement the
4 provisions of this act. Notwithstanding any other
5 provision of law, this appropriation shall not be
6 transferred or expended for any other purpose and any
7 unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this
8 appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30,
9 2012.

10

11 (c) The department is authorized an additional two
12 (2) full-time positions for purposes of this act.

13

14 (d) The department shall include a request of not
15 more than five hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$550,000.00)
16 in its 2013-2014 standard biennial budget request to carry
17 out its duties under this act.

18

19 **Section 4.**

20

21 (a) Section 3 of this act is effective immediately
22 upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become
23 law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming
24 Constitution.

1

2 (b) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this
3 section this act is effective July 1, 2011.

4

5

(END)