

BY: Committee on Ways and Means

AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL 534
(Third Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in line 3, strike “Declining State Aid” and substitute “Small and Declining Student Enrollment”; in line 4, after “of” insert “establishing eligibility for a county board of education to receive a certain State grant;”; in line 5, strike “certain” and substitute “eligible”; and in line 6, strike “under certain circumstances”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 1, in line 22, strike “now, therefore,” and substitute “and”

WHEREAS, Small school districts in which enrollment is declining are in a unique situation that is not addressed in the current State education funding calculations; and

WHEREAS, Although the adequacy study provides an opportunity to study the effect on State education funding resulting from declining enrollments in small school districts, the study will not be completed until December 1, 2016, and any changes to the State education funding calculations resulting from the study will not be effective until fiscal year 2018; now, therefore,.”

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 3, strike in their entirety lines 23 through 27, inclusive, and substitute:

“(5) (I) FOR FISCAL YEARS 2015 THROUGH 2017, A COUNTY BOARD IS ELIGIBLE FOR A STATE GRANT UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH IF A COUNTY BOARD’S:

(Over)

1. FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT ENROLLMENT IS LESS THAN 5,000;

2. FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT ENROLLMENT IN THE CURRENT FISCAL YEAR IS LESS THAN THE PRIOR FISCAL YEAR; AND

3. TOTAL DIRECT EDUCATION AID IN THE CURRENT FISCAL YEAR IS LESS THAN THE PRIOR FISCAL YEAR BY MORE THAN 1%.

(II) THE STATE SHALL PROVIDE A GRANT TO A COUNTY BOARD THAT IS ELIGIBLE UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH.

(III) THE GRANT SHALL BE EQUAL TO 50% OF THE DECREASE IN TOTAL DIRECT EDUCATION AID FROM THE PRIOR FISCAL YEAR TO THE CURRENT FISCAL YEAR.”.