

CLASS SIZE REDUCTION IN GRADES 7-8

1998 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

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AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC EDUCATION; PROVIDING A \$13,600,000 APPROPRIATION FOR CLASS SIZE REDUCTION IN GRADES 7 AND 8 IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS; REQUIRING SCHOOLS TO USE INNOVATIVE METHODS IN REDUCING CLASS SIZE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

This act affects sections of Utah Code Annotated 1953 as follows:

ENACTS:

53A-17a-124.7, Utah Code Annotated 1953

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

Section 1. Section **53A-17a-124.7** is enacted to read:

53A-17a-124.7. Appropriation for class size reduction in grades 7 & 8.

(1) There is appropriated to the State Board of Education \$13,600,000 for class size reduction programs in grades 7 and 8 in the state's public schools.

(2) The state board shall allocate the appropriation to the state's 40 school districts on the basis of each district's prior year average daily membership in grades 7 and 8 plus growth, as determined under Subsection 53A-17a-106(3), as compared to the state total.

(3) In order to receive class size reduction moneys under this section, a school must submit a written plan to its local school board as to how the school will use the moneys in creative and innovative ways to reduce class size, such as establishing interdisciplinary teaching teams for specific communities of learners or focusing the reduction of class size on specific blocks of time during the school day.

1 (4) A school may use a portion of its allocation received under this section for capital
2 facilities projects, if the school determines those projects are necessary to help reduce class size.

3 (5) This appropriation is to supplement any other appropriation made for class size
4 reduction.

5 (6) (a) Each local school board shall provide an annual report to the State Board of
6 Education on how each school in its respective district used its allocation of the appropriation
7 provided under this section.

8 (b) The State Board of Education, through the state superintendent of public instruction,
9 shall provide the Legislature and the governor with an annual evaluation of the class size reduction
10 program established under this section, together with any suggested recommendations for
11 continuing, modifying, or terminating the program.

12 Section 2. **Effective date.**

13 This act takes effect on July 1, 1998.

Legislative Review Note
as of 11-20-97 1:15 PM

A limited legal review of this bill raises no obvious constitutional or statutory concerns.

Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel

Committee Note

The Education Interim Committee recommended this bill.