

Senator Aaron Osmond proposes the following substitute bill:

PUBLIC SCHOOL DROPOUT RECOVERY

2015 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Aaron Osmond

House Sponsor: Francis D. Gibson

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 school year, 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 a school
38 year; or

39 (ii) completion of one-quarter credit of college and career readiness course work.

40 (b) "Attainment goal" means:

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

42 (A) earning a high school diploma;

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

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

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

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

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

52 (e) "College and career readiness course work" means course work that prepares a
53 student to succeed in a:

54 (i) post-secondary environment, such as course work designed to teach time
55 management skills and study skills; and

56 (ii) work environment, such as:

- 57 (A) career and technical education courses;
- 58 (B) career exploration and planning courses;
- 59 (C) course work designed to teach the soft skills that are necessary to succeed in a
- 60 work environment; and
- 61 (D) course work designed to prepare a student to pass an industry based certification
- 62 exam.
- 63 (f) "Eligible student" means a student:
- 64 (i) who has withdrawn from a secondary school prior to earning a diploma with no
- 65 legitimate reason for departure or absence from school;
- 66 (ii) who has been dropped from average daily membership under the 10-day rule as
- 67 described in rules established by the State Board of Education; and
- 68 (iii) (A) whose cohort has not yet graduated; or
- 69 (B) whose cohort graduated in the previous school year.
- 70 (g) "Local education agency" or "LEA" means a school district or charter school.
- 71 (2) An LEA shall:
- 72 (a) create a restricted account consisting of the funds described in Subsection (2)(b);
- 73 (b) deposit the following funds into the restricted account described in Subsection
- 74 (2)(a):
- 75 (i) 30% of the value of one kindergarten through grade 12 weighted pupil unit for each
- 76 eligible student that is classified as an eligible student during the current school year; and
- 77 (ii) the funds generated by counting an eligible student as part of the LEA's average
- 78 daily membership as described in Subsection (6); and
- 79 (c) use the funds in the LEA's restricted account described in Subsection (2)(a) to
- 80 provide dropout recovery services as described in this section.
- 81 (3) An LEA shall ensure that dropout recovery services provided under this section
- 82 include:
- 83 (a) recruiting eligible students;
- 84 (b) allowing an eligible student to enroll in a dropout recovery program at any point
- 85 during the calendar year;
- 86 (c) working with an eligible student to identify and mitigate social barriers to regular
- 87 school attendance;

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

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

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

- 99 (a) the provider has a demonstrated record of effectiveness engaging with and
- 100 recovering eligible students;
- 101 (b) a contract with a provider described in Subsection (4):
- 102 (i) requires the provider to:
- 103 (A) provide the services described in Subsection (3); and
- 104 (B) regularly report an eligible student's progress to the LEA;
- 105 (ii) specifies that the LEA will only reimburse the provider for months during which an
- 106 eligible student has made adequate monthly progress toward the attainment goal identified in
- 107 the eligible student's learning plan; and
- 108 (iii) allows the provider to disenroll an eligible student who is not making adequate
- 109 monthly progress toward the attainment goal identified in the eligible student's learning plan
- 110 for three consecutive months.

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

115 (b) An LEA may count a student in average daily membership under Subsection (6)(a):
116 (i) for a month during which the student makes adequate monthly progress, calculated
117 in accordance with rules established by the State Board of Education under Subsection (7)(a);
118 and

119 (ii) if a student re-enrolls in an LEA or statewide course or program, in accordance
120 with the pupil accounting provisions under Section 53A-17a-106 and State Board of Education
121 rule.

122 (7) The State Board of Education shall:

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

125 (b) ensure that the amount accounted for under Subsection (6)(a):

126 (i) does not exceed one pupil in average daily membership per student;

127 (ii) includes only the value of the kindergarten through grade 12 weighted pupil unit;

128 and

129 (iii) excludes add-on weighted pupil units; and

130 (c) audit LEAs to ensure that the funds described in Subsection (2) are only used as
131 described in this section.