HB0001H3017

[BUDGET AFFECTED]

Budget(s): Section 205. EDUCATION-SCHOOL FINANCE

(School Foundation Program)

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1 Page 65-line 20 After "Foundation Program" insert "1.".

Page 66-after line 4 Insert:

"1. (a) Of this other funds appropriation, one million six hundred thousand dollars (\$1,600,000.00) shall be expended by the state superintendent of public instruction to establish a pilot project for a voucher system. These funds shall be from that portion of the school foundation program account funded by federal mineral royalties. The project shall:

(i) Be administered by the state superintendent of public instruction through the department of education;

(ii) Operate for school years 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 only;

(iii) Be comprised of two hundred (200) public school students who will be enrolled in grade seven (7) during the 2018-2019 school year. The students shall be selected by the state superintendent from applicants without regard to school district, community or county of residence.

(b) The two hundred (200) students selected pursuant to subsection (a) of this footnote shall be randomly divided into two (2) groups of one hundred (100) students subject to the following:

(i) One (1) group of one hundred (100) students shall be enrolled in a nonpublic school and shall receive a payment of up to eight thousand dollars (\$8,000.00) per year during the pilot program, which shall be used to pay tuition costs assessed by the school in which the student is enrolled. The department of education shall enter into agreements with the parents or guardians of these students to ensure funding is used exclusively for tuition. The agreements shall also require that students in this group participate during the 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 school years in the statewide assessment system for student performance administered under W.S. 21-2-304(a) (v). Any

student within this group shall not be counted within the average daily membership (ADM) as computed for the purpose of implementing W.S. 21-13-309. Home-based education programs as defined under W.S. 21-4-101(a)(v) are not eligible under this paragraph;

(ii) The second group of one hundred (100) students shall serve as a control group only and shall be counted within the ADM of the school district in which the student resides and attends school.

(c) The state superintendent of public instruction shall maintain a record of the statewide assessment system for student performance results, administered under W.S. 21-2-304(a)(v) during the 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 school years, for the two hundred (200) students selected under subsection (b) of this footnote. Using the record, the superintendent shall prepare a comparison of student performance between the two (2) groups of one hundred (100) students as established under subsection (b) of this section. Information developed under this subsection shall be used only as a basis upon which to make recommendations to the legislature under subsection (d) of this footnote.

(d) On or before October 1, 2019 and again on or before October 1, 2020, the state superintendent of public instruction shall report to the legislature on findings under this footnote with respect to the pilot program and provide recommendations on the future of a voucher system in Wyoming education.".

To the extent required by this amendment: adjust totals; and renumber as necessary. CLEM, WINTERS