State of Arizona Senate Forty-eighth Legislature Second Regular Session 2008

## **SENATE BILL 1377**

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTIONS 15-185, 15-302, 15-481, 15-901, 15-945, 15-1102 AND 15-2104, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO EDUCATION FINANCE.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

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Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona: Section 1. Section 15-185, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

## 15-185. Charter schools: financing: civil penalty: definitions

- A. Financial provisions for a charter school that is sponsored by a school district governing board are as follows:
- 1. The charter school shall be included in the district's budget and financial assistance calculations pursuant to paragraph 3 of this subsection and chapter 9 of this title, except for chapter 9, article 4 of this title. The charter of the charter school shall include a description of the methods of funding the charter school by the school district. The school district shall send a copy of the charter and application, including a description of how the school district plans to fund the school, to the state board of education before the start of the first fiscal year of operation of the charter school. The charter or application shall include an estimate of the student count for the charter school for its first fiscal year of operation. This estimate shall be computed pursuant to the requirements of paragraph 3 of this subsection.
- 2. A school district is not financially responsible for any charter school that is sponsored by the state board of education or the state board for charter schools.
  - 3. A school district that sponsors a charter school may:
- (a) Increase its student count as provided in subsection B, paragraph 2 of this section during the first year of the charter school's operation to include those charter school pupils who were not previously enrolled in the school district. A charter school sponsored by a school district governing board is eligible for the assistance prescribed in subsection B, paragraph 4 of this section. The soft capital allocation as provided in section 15-962 for the school district sponsoring the charter school shall be increased by the amount of the additional assistance. The school district shall include the full amount of the additional assistance in the funding provided to the charter school.
- (b) Compute separate weighted student counts pursuant to section 15-943, paragraph 2, subdivision (a) for its noncharter school versus charter school pupils in order to maintain eligibility for small school district support level weights authorized in section 15-943, paragraph 1 for its noncharter school pupils only. The portion of a district's student count that is attributable to charter school pupils is not eligible for small school district support level weights.
- 4. If a school district uses the provisions of paragraph 3 of this subsection, the school district is not eligible to include those pupils in its student count for the purposes of computing an increase in its revenue control limit and district support level as provided in section 15-948.

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- 5. A school district that sponsors a charter school is not eligible to include the charter school pupils in its student count for the purpose of computing an increase in its capital outlay revenue limit as provided in section 15-961, subsection C, except that if the charter school was previously a school in the district, the district may include in its student count any charter school pupils who were enrolled in the school district in the prior year.
- 6. A school district that sponsors a charter school is not eligible to include the charter school pupils in its student count for the purpose of computing the revenue control limit which is used to determine the maximum budget increase as provided in chapter 4, article 4 of this title unless the charter school is located within the boundaries of the school district.
- 7. If a school district converts one or more of its district public schools to a charter school and receives assistance as prescribed in subsection B, paragraph 4 of this section, and subsequently converts the charter school back to a district public school, the school district shall repay the state the total additional assistance received for the charter school for all years that the charter school was in operation. The repayment shall be in one lump sum and shall be reduced from the school district's current year equalization assistance. The school district's general budget limit shall be reduced by the same lump sum amount in the current year.
- B. Financial provisions for a charter school that is sponsored by the state board of education or the state board for charter schools are as follows:
- 1. The charter school shall calculate a base support level as prescribed in section 15-943, except that  $\frac{15-942}{00}$  DOES not apply to these charter schools.
- 2. Notwithstanding paragraph 1 of this subsection, the student count shall be determined initially using an estimated student count based on actual registration of pupils before the beginning of the school year. After the first one hundred days or two hundred days in session, as applicable, the charter school shall revise the student count to be equal to the actual average daily membership, as defined in section 15-901, or the adjusted average daily membership, as prescribed in section 15-902, of the charter Before the one hundredth day or two hundredth day in session, as applicable, the state board of education or the state board for charter schools may require a charter school to report periodically regarding pupil enrollment and attendance and the department of education may revise its computation of equalization assistance based on the report. A charter school shall revise its student count, base support level and additional assistance before May 15. A charter school that overestimated its student count shall revise its budget before May 15. A charter school that underestimated its student count may revise its budget before May 15.

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- 3. A charter school may utilize section 15-855 for the purposes of this section. The charter school and the department of education shall prescribe procedures for determining average daily attendance and average daily membership.
- 4. Equalization assistance for the charter school shall be determined by adding the amount of the base support level and additional assistance. The amount of the additional assistance is one thousand four hundred forty five SEVENTY-FOUR dollars twenty five SIXTEEN cents per student count in kindergarten programs and grades one through eight and one thousand six SEVEN hundred eighty-four EIGHTEEN dollars forty-one TEN cents per student count in grades nine through twelve.
- 5. The state board of education shall apportion state aid from the appropriations made for such purposes to the state treasurer for disbursement to the charter schools in each county in an amount as determined by this paragraph. The apportionments shall be made in twelve equal installments of the total amount to be apportioned during the fiscal year on the fifteenth day of each month of the fiscal year.
- 6. Notwithstanding paragraph 5 of this subsection, if sufficient appropriated monies are available after the first forty days in session of the current year, a charter school may request additional state monies to fund the increased state aid due to anticipated student growth through the first one hundred days or two hundred days in session, as applicable, of the current year as provided in section 15-948. In no event shall a charter school have received more than three-fourths of its total apportionment before April 15 of the fiscal year. Early payments pursuant to this subsection must be approved by the state treasurer, the director of the department of administration and the superintendent of public instruction.
- 7. The charter school shall not charge tuition, levy taxes or issue bonds.
- 8. Not later than noon on the day preceding each apportionment date established by paragraph 5 of this subsection, the superintendent of public instruction shall furnish to the state treasurer an abstract of the apportionment and shall certify the apportionment to the department of administration, which shall draw its warrant in favor of the charter schools for the amount apportioned.
- C. If a pupil is enrolled in both a charter school and a public school that is not a charter school, the sum of the daily membership, which includes enrollment as prescribed in section 15-901, subsection A, paragraph 2, subdivisions (a) and (b) and daily attendance as prescribed in section 15-901, subsection A, paragraph 6, for that pupil in the school district and the charter school shall not exceed 1.0, except that if the pupil is enrolled in both a charter school and a joint technological education district and resides within the boundaries of a school district participating in the joint technological education district, the sum of the average daily membership for that pupil in the charter school and the joint technological education

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district shall not exceed 1.25. If a pupil is enrolled in both a charter school and a public school that is not a charter school, the department of education shall direct the average daily membership to the school with the most recent enrollment date. Upon validation of actual enrollment in both a charter school and a public school that is not a charter school and if the sum of the daily membership or daily attendance for that pupil is greater than 1.0, the sum shall be reduced to 1.0 and shall be apportioned between the public school and the charter school based on the percentage of total time that the pupil is enrolled or in attendance in the public school and the charter school, except that if the pupil is enrolled in both a charter school and a joint technological education district and resides within the boundaries of a school district participating in the joint technological education district, the sum of the average daily membership for that pupil in the charter school and the joint technological education district shall be reduced to 1.25 and shall be apportioned between the charter school and the joint technological education district based on the percentage of total time that the pupil is enrolled or in attendance in the charter school and the joint technological education district. The uniform system of financial records shall include guidelines for the apportionment of the pupil enrollment and attendance as provided in this section.

- D. Charter schools are allowed to accept grants and gifts to supplement their state funding, but it is not the intent of the charter school law to require taxpayers to pay twice to educate the same pupils. The base support level for a charter school or for a school district sponsoring a charter school shall be reduced by an amount equal to the total amount of monies received by a charter school from a federal or state agency if the federal or state monies are intended for the basic maintenance and operations of the school. The superintendent of public instruction shall estimate the amount of the reduction for the budget year and shall revise the reduction to reflect the actual amount before May 15 of the current year. If the reduction results in a negative amount, the negative amount shall be used in computing all budget limits and equalization assistance, except that:
  - 1. Equalization assistance shall not be less than zero.
- 2. For a charter school sponsored by the state board of education or the state board for charter schools, the total of the base support level, the capital outlay revenue limit, the soft capital allocation and the additional assistance shall not be less than zero.
- 3. For a charter school sponsored by a school district, the base support level for the school district shall not be reduced by more than the amount that the charter school increased the district's base support level, capital outlay revenue limit and soft capital allocation.
- E. If a charter school was a district public school in the prior year and is now being operated for or by the same school district and sponsored by the state board of education, the state board for charter schools or a school district governing board, the reduction in subsection D of this section

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applies. The reduction to the base support level of the charter school or the sponsoring district of the charter school shall equal the sum of the base support level and the additional assistance received in the current year for those pupils who were enrolled in the traditional public school in the prior year and are now enrolled in the charter school in the current year.

- F. Equalization assistance for charter schools shall be provided as a single amount based on average daily membership without categorical distinctions between maintenance and operations or capital.
- G. At the request of a charter school, the county school superintendent of the county where the charter school is located may provide the same educational services to the charter school as prescribed in section 15-308, subsection A. The county school superintendent may charge a fee to recover costs for providing educational services to charter schools.
- H. If the sponsor of the charter school determines at a public meeting that the charter school is not in compliance with federal law, with the laws of this state or with its charter, the sponsor of a charter school may submit a request to the department of education to withhold up to ten per cent of the monthly apportionment of state aid that would otherwise be due the charter school. The department of education shall adjust the charter school's apportionment accordingly. The sponsor shall provide written notice to the charter school at least seventy-two hours before the meeting and shall allow the charter school to respond to the allegations of noncompliance at the meeting before the sponsor makes a final determination to notify the department of education of noncompliance. The charter school shall submit a corrective action plan to the sponsor on a date specified by the sponsor at the meeting. The corrective action plan shall be designed to correct deficiencies at the charter school and to ensure that the charter school promptly returns to compliance. When the sponsor determines that the charter school is in compliance, the department of education shall restore the full amount of state aid payments to the charter school.
- I. In addition to the withholding of state aid payments pursuant to subsection H of this section, the sponsor of a charter school may impose a civil penalty of one thousand dollars per occurrence if a charter school fails to comply with the fingerprinting requirements prescribed in section 15-183, subsection C or section 15-512. The sponsor of a charter school shall not impose a civil penalty if it is the first time that a charter school is out of compliance with the fingerprinting requirements and if the charter school provides proof within forty-eight hours of written notification that an application for the appropriate fingerprint check has been received by the department of public safety. The sponsor of the charter school shall obtain proof that the charter school has been notified and the notification shall identify the date of the deadline and shall be signed by both parties. The sponsor of a charter school shall automatically impose a civil penalty of one thousand dollars per occurrence if the sponsor determines that the charter school subsequently violates the fingerprinting

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requirements. Civil penalties pursuant to this section SUBSECTION shall be assessed by requesting the department of education to reduce the amount of state aid that the charter school would otherwise receive by an amount equal to the civil penalty. The amount of state aid withheld shall revert to the state general fund at the end of the fiscal year.

- J. A charter school may receive and spend monies distributed by the department of education pursuant to section 42-5029, subsection E and section 37-521. subsection B.
  - K. For the purposes of this section:
- 1. "Monies intended for the basic maintenance and operations of the school" means monies intended to provide support for the educational program of the school, except that it does not include supplemental assistance for a specific purpose or P.L. 81-874 monies. The auditor general shall determine which federal or state monies meet the definition in this paragraph.
- 2. "Operated for or by the same school district" means the charter school is either governed by the same district governing board or operated by the district in the same manner as other traditional schools in the district or is operated by an independent party that has a contract with the school district. The auditor general and the department of education shall determine which charter schools meet the definition in this subsection.
  - Sec. 2. Section 15-302, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read: 15-302. Powers and duties
  - A. The county school superintendent shall:
- 1. Distribute all laws, reports, circulars, instructions and forms which he may receive for the use of school officers.
  - 2. Record all official acts.
- 3. Appoint governing board members of school districts to fill all vacancies, but the term of the appointment shall be until the next regular election for governing board members, at which time a successor shall be elected to serve the unexpired portion of the term. The county school superintendent may, if he deems it in the best interest of the community, MAY call a special election to fill the vacancies. If an election is called, the newly elected member shall serve for the remainder of the unexpired portion of the term.
- 4. Make reports, when directed by the superintendent of public instruction, showing matters relating to schools in his county as may be required on the forms furnished by the superintendent of public instruction.
- 5. Have such powers and perform such duties as otherwise prescribed by law.
- 6. On or before October 1 of each year, make a report to the superintendent of public instruction showing the amount of monies received from state school funds, special school district taxes and other sources, the total expenditures for school purposes and the balance on hand to the credit of each school district at the close of the school year.

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- 7. Contract with the board of supervisors for the board of supervisors to conduct all regular school district elections.
- 8. Be responsible, in cooperation with the governing boards and the board of supervisors, for all special school district elections.
- 9. Maintain teacher and administrator certification records of effective dates and expiration dates of teachers' and administrators' certificates in compliance with guidelines prescribed in the uniform system of financial records for those school districts for which the county school superintendent is the fiscal agent. The county school superintendent shall not draw a warrant in payment of a teacher's, substitute teacher's or administrator's salary unless the teacher, substitute teacher or administrator is legally certified during the fiscal year in which the term for payment is demanded.
- 10. Notify a school district three years before the expiration of a revenue control limit override that the school district's budget must be adjusted in the final two years of the override pursuant to section 15-481, subsections SUBSECTION  $\frac{P}{P}$  M and  $\frac{Q}{Q}$ , if the voters do not approve another override.
- 11. In collaboration with the department of education and other state agencies, provide assistance to school districts and charter schools on the use of student data, staff development, curriculum alignment and technology to improve student performance.
- 12. Assist schools in meeting yearly adequate progress goals as defined by criteria established by the state board of education and implemented by the department of education.
- B. At the request of school districts and charter schools, the county school superintendent may provide discretionary programs in addition to the programs prescribed in subsection A OF THIS SECTION.
- C. The county school superintendent may provide the services prescribed in subsections A and B OF THIS SECTION in the county or jointly with two or more counties pursuant to title 11, chapter 7, article 3.
- D. Each county school superintendent may establish an advisory committee to the office of the county school superintendent.
  - Sec. 3. Section 15-481, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read: 15-481. Override election; budget increases; notice; ballot; effect

A. If a proposed budget of a school district exceeds the aggregate budget limit for the budget year, at least ninety days before the proposed election the governing board shall order an override election to be held on the first Tuesday following the first Monday in November as prescribed by section 16-204, subsection B, paragraph 1, subdivision (d) for the purpose of presenting the proposed budget to the qualified electors of the school district who shall by a majority of those voting either affirm or reject the budget. In addition, the governing board shall prepare an alternate budget which does not include an increase in the budget of more than the amount

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permitted as provided in section 15-905. If the qualified electors approve the proposed budget, the governing board of the school district shall follow the procedures prescribed in section 15-905 for adopting a budget that includes the authorized increase. If the qualified electors disapprove the proposed budget, the governing board shall follow the procedures prescribed in section 15-905 for adopting a budget that does not include the proposed increase or the portion of the proposed increase that exceeds the amount authorized by a previously approved budget increase as prescribed in subsection  $\stackrel{\square}{\longrightarrow}$  M of this section.

- B. The county school superintendent shall prepare an informational report on the proposed increase in the budget and a sample ballot and, at least forty days prior to the election, shall transmit the report and the sample ballot to the governing board of the school district. The governing board, upon receipt of the report and the ballot, shall mail or distribute the report and the ballot to the households in which qualified electors reside within the school district at least thirty-five days prior to the election. Any distribution of material concerning the proposed increase in the budget shall not be conducted by children enrolled in the school district. The report shall contain the following information:
  - 1. The date of the election.
  - 2. The voter's polling place and the times it is open.
- 3. The proposed total increase in the budget which exceeds the amount permitted pursuant to section 15-905.
- 4. The total amount of the current year's budget, the total amount of the proposed budget and the total amount of the alternate budget.
- 5. If the override is for a period of more than one year, a statement indicating the number of years the proposed increase in the budget would be in effect and the percentage of the school district's revenue control limit that the district is requesting for the future years.
- 6. The proposed total amount of revenues which will fund the increase in the budget and the amount which will be obtained from a levy of taxes upon the taxable property within the school district for the first year for which the budget increase was adopted.
- 7. The proposed amount of revenues which will fund the increase in the budget and which will be obtained from other than a levy of taxes upon the taxable property within the school district for the first year for which the budget increase was adopted.
- 8. The dollar amount and the purpose for which the proposed increase in the budget is to be expended for the first year for which the budget increase was adopted.
- 9. At least two arguments, if submitted, but no more than ten arguments for and two arguments, if submitted, but no more than ten arguments against the proposed increase in the budget. The arguments shall be in a form prescribed by the county school superintendent and each argument shall not exceed two hundred words. Arguments for the proposed increase in the

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budget shall be provided in writing and signed by the governing board. If submitted, additional arguments in favor of the proposed increase in the budget shall be provided in writing and signed by those in favor. Arguments against the proposed increase in the budget shall be provided in writing and signed by those in opposition. The names of those persons other than the governing board or superintendent submitting written arguments shall not be included in the report without their specific permission, but shall be made available only upon request to the county school superintendent. The county school superintendent shall review all factual statements contained in the written arguments and correct any inaccurate statements of fact. The superintendent shall not review and correct any portion of the written arguments which are identified as statements of the author's opinion. The county school superintendent shall make the written arguments available to the public as provided in title 39, chapter 1, article 2. A deadline for submitting arguments to be included in the informational report shall be set by the county school superintendent.

- 10. A statement that the alternate budget shall be adopted by the governing board if the proposed budget is not adopted by the qualified electors of the school district.
- 11. The full cash value, the assessed valuation, the first year tax rate for the proposed override and the estimated amount of the secondary property taxes if the proposed budget is adopted for each of the following:
- (a) An owner-occupied residence whose assessed valuation is the average assessed valuation of property classified as class three, as prescribed by section 42-12003 for the current year in the school district.
- (b) An owner-occupied residence whose assessed valuation is one-half of the assessed valuation of the residence in subdivision (a) of this paragraph.
- (c) An owner-occupied residence whose assessed valuation is twice the assessed valuation of the residence in subdivision (a) of this paragraph.
- (d) A business whose assessed valuation is the average of the assessed valuation of property classified as class one, as prescribed by section 42-12001, paragraphs 12 and 13 for the current year in the school district.
- 12. If the election is conducted pursuant to subsection  $\vdash$  I or  $\vdash$  J of this section, the following information:
- (a) An executive summary of the school district's most recent capital improvement plan submitted to the school facilities board.
- (b) A complete list of each proposed capital improvement that will be funded with the budget increase and a description of the proposed cost of each improvement, including a separate aggregation of capital improvements for administrative purposes as defined by the school facilities board.
- (c) The tax rate associated with each of the proposed capital improvements and the estimated cost of each capital improvement for the owner of a single family home that is valued at eighty thousand dollars.

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- C. For the purpose of this section, the school district may use its staff, equipment, materials, buildings or other resources only to distribute the informational report at the school district office or at public hearings and to produce such information as required in subsection B of this section, provided that nothing in this subsection shall preclude school districts from holding or participating in any public hearings at which testimony is given by at least one person for the proposed increase and one person against the proposed increase. Any written information provided by the district pertaining to the override election shall include financial information showing the estimated first year tax rate for the proposed budget override amount.
- D. If any amount of the proposed increase will be funded by a levy of taxes in the district, the election prescribed in subsection A of this section shall be held on the first Tuesday following the first Monday in November as prescribed by section 16-204, subsection B, paragraph 1, subdivision (d). If the proposed increase will be fully funded by revenues from other than a levy of taxes the elections prescribed in subsection A of this section shall be held on any date prescribed by section 16-204. The elections shall be conducted as nearly as practicable in the manner prescribed in article 1 of this chapter, sections 15-422 through 15-424 and section 15-426, relating to special elections, except that:
- 1. The notices required pursuant to section 15-403 shall be posted not less than twenty-five days before the election.
- 2. Ballots shall be counted pursuant to title 16, chapter 4, article 10.
- E. If the election is to exceed the revenue control limit and if the proposed increase will be fully funded by a levy of taxes upon the taxable property within the school district, the ballot shall contain the words "budget increase, yes" and "budget increase, no", and the voter shall signify his desired choice. The ballot shall also contain the amount of the proposed increase of the proposed budget over the alternate budget, a statement that the amount of the proposed increase will be based on a percentage of the school district's revenue control limit in future years, if applicable, as provided in subsection  $\frac{1}{2}$  M of this section and the following statement:

Any budget increase authorized by this election shall be entirely funded by a levy of taxes upon the taxable property within this school district for the year for which adopted and for \_\_\_\_ subsequent years, shall not be realized from monies furnished by the state and shall not be subject to the limitation on taxes specified in article IX, section 18, Constitution of Arizona. Based on an estimate of assessed valuation used for secondary property tax purposes, to fund the proposed increase in the school district's budget would require an estimated tax rate of \_\_\_\_\_ dollar per one hundred dollars of assessed valuation used for secondary property tax

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purposes and is in addition to the school district's tax rate which will be levied to fund the school district's revenue control limit allowed by law.

- F. If the election is to exceed the revenue control limit and if the proposed increase will be fully funded by revenues from other than a levy of taxes upon the taxable property within the school district, the ballot shall contain the words "budget increase, yes" and "budget increase, no", and the voter shall signify the voter's desired choice. The ballot shall also contain:
- 1. The amount of the proposed increase of the proposed budget over the alternate budget.
- 2. A statement that the amount of the proposed increase will be based on a percentage of the school district's revenue control limit in future years, if applicable, as provided in subsection P M of this section.
  - 3. The following statement:

Any budget increase authorized by this election shall be entirely funded by this school district with revenues from other than a levy of taxes on the taxable property within the school district for the year for which adopted and for subsequent years and shall not be realized from monies furnished by the state.

- G. Except as provided in subsection H of this section, the maximum budget increase which may be requested and authorized as provided in subsection E or F of this section or the combination of subsections E and F of this section is ten FIFTEEN per cent of the revenue control limit as provided in section 15-947, subsection A for the budget year.
- H. Special budget override provisions for school districts with a student count of less than one hundred fifty-four in kindergarten programs and grades one through eight or with a student count of less than one hundred seventy-six in grades nine through twelve are as follows:
- 1. The maximum budget increase that may be requested and authorized as provided in subsections E and F of this section is the greater of the amount prescribed in subsection G of this section or a limit computed as follows:
- (a) For common or unified districts with a student count of less than one hundred fifty-four in kindergarten programs and grades one through eight, the limit computed as prescribed in item (i) or (ii) of this subdivision, whichever is appropriate:

(i) Small School Support Level Weight Phase Down Student Student for Small Isolated Reduction Count Count Limit School Districts Factor Base Level 1.358 + (0.0005 x)125 x <u>\$</u>

> (500 - Student Count)) Small Isolated Phase Down Phase Down School District

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                Base
                                Reduction Factor
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                For unified or union high school districts with a student count of
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     less than one hundred seventy-six in grades nine through twelve, the limit
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     computed as prescribed in item (i) or (ii) of this subdivision, whichever is
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     appropriate:
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                Small School
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     Student
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                Small School
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           (c) If both subdivisions (a) and (b) of this paragraph apply to a
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     unified school district, its limit for the purposes of this paragraph is the
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     combination of its elementary limit and its secondary limit.
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           (d) If only subdivision (a) or (b) of this paragraph applies to a
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     unified school district, the district's limit for the purposes of this
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     paragraph is the sum of the limit computed as provided in subdivision (a) or
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     (b) of this paragraph plus ten per cent of the revenue control limit
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     attributable to those grade levels that do not meet the eligibility
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     requirements of this subsection. If a school district budgets monies outside
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the revenue control limit pursuant to section 15-949, subsection E, the district's limit for the purposes of this paragraph is only the ten per cent of the revenue control limit attributable to those grade levels that are not included under section 15-949, subsection E. For the purposes of this subdivision, the revenue control limit is separated into elementary and secondary components based on the weighted student count as provided in section 15-971, subsection B, paragraph 2, subdivision (a).

- 2. If a school district utilizes the provisions of this subsection to request an override of more than one year, the ballot shall include an estimate of the amount of the proposed increase in the future years in place of the statement that the amount of the proposed increase will be based on a percentage of the school district's revenue control limit in future years, as prescribed in subsections E and F of this section.
- 3. Notwithstanding subsection  $\frac{P}{P}$  M of this section, the maximum period of an override authorized pursuant to this subsection is five years.
- 4. Subsection  $\stackrel{\textbf{P}}{-}$  M, paragraphs 1 and 2 of this section do not apply to overrides authorized pursuant to this subsection.

I. If the election is to exceed the revenue control limit as provided in section 15-482 and if the proposed increase will be fully funded by a levy of taxes on the taxable property within the school district, the ballot shall contain the words "budget increase, yes" and "budget increase, no", and the voter shall signify the voter's desired choice. The ballot shall also contain the amount of the proposed increase of the budget over the alternate budget, a statement that the amount of the proposed increase will be based on a percentage of the school district's revenue control limit in future years, if applicable, as provided in subsection Q of this section, and the following statement:

Any budget increase authorized by this election shall be entirely funded by a levy of taxes on the taxable property within this school district for the year for which adopted and for \_\_\_\_\_ subsequent years, shall not be realized from monies furnished by the state and shall not be subject to the limitation on taxes specified in article IX, section 18, Constitution of Arizona. Based on an estimate of assessed valuation used for secondary property tax purposes, to fund the proposed increase in the school district's budget which will be funded by a levy of taxes upon the taxable property within this school district would require an estimated tax rate of \_\_\_\_\_ dollar per one hundred dollars of assessed valuation used for secondary property tax purposes and is in addition to the school district's tax rate that will be levied to fund the school district's revenue control limit allowed by law.

J. If the election is to exceed the revenue control limit as provided in section 15-482 and if the proposed increase will be fully funded by revenues other than a levy of taxes on the taxable property within the school

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 district, the ballot shall contain the words "budget increase, yes" and "budget increase, no", and the voter shall signify the voter's desired choice. The ballot shall also contain the amount of the proposed increase of the proposed budget over the alternate budget, a statement that the amount of the proposed increase will be based on a percentage of the school district's revenue control limit in future years, if applicable, as provided in subsection Q of this section and the following statement:

Any budget increase authorized by this election shall be entirely funded by this school district with revenues from other than a levy of taxes on the taxable property within the school district for the year for which adopted and for \_\_\_\_\_ subsequent years and shall not be realized from monies furnished by the state.

K. The maximum budget increase that may be requested and authorized as provided in subsection I or J of this section, or a combination of both of these subsections, is five per cent of the revenue control limit as provided in section 15-947, subsection A for the budget year. For a unified school district, a common school district not within a high school district or a common school district within a high school district that offers instruction in high school subjects as provided in section 15-447, five per cent of the revenue control limit attributable to the weighted student count in preschool programs for children with disabilities, kindergarten programs and grades one through eight as provided in section 15-971, subsection B.

L. If the election is to exceed the capital outlay revenue limit and if the proposed increase will be fully funded by a levy of taxes upon the taxable property within the school district, the ballot shall contain the words "budget increase, yes" and "budget increase, no", and the voter shall signify the voter's desired choice. An election held pursuant to this subsection shall be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday of November. The ballot shall also contain the amount of the proposed increase of the proposed budget over the alternate budget and the following statement:

Any budget increase authorized by this election shall be entirely funded by a levy of taxes upon the taxable property within this school district for the year in which adopted and for \_\_\_\_\_ subsequent years, shall not be realized from monies furnished by the state and shall not be subject to the limitation on taxes specified in article IX, section 18, Constitution of Arizona. Based on an estimate of assessed valuation used for secondary property tax purposes, to fund the proposed increase in the school district's budget would require an estimated tax rate of \_\_\_\_\_ dollar per one hundred dollars of assessed valuation used for secondary property tax purposes and is in addition to the school district's tax rate

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which will be levied to fund the school district's capital outlay revenue limit allowed by law.

M. J. If the election is to exceed the capital outlay revenue limit and if the proposed increase will be fully funded by revenues from other than a levy of taxes upon the taxable property within the school district, the ballot shall contain the words "budget increase, yes" and "budget increase, no", and the voter shall signify the voter's desired choice. An election held pursuant to this subsection shall be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday of November. The ballot shall also contain the amount of the proposed increase of the proposed budget over the alternate budget and the following statement:

Any budget increase authorized by this election shall be entirely funded by this school district with revenues from other than a levy of taxes on the taxable property within the school district for the year in which adopted and for \_\_\_\_\_ subsequent years and shall not be realized from monies furnished by the state.

N. K. If the election is to exceed a combination of the revenue control limit as provided in subsection E or F of this section, the revenue control limit as provided in subsection I or J of this section or the capital outlay revenue limit as provided in subsection  $\vdash$  I or  $\vdash$  J of this section, the ballot shall be prepared so that the voters may vote on each proposed increase separately and shall contain statements required in the same manner as if each proposed increase were submitted separately.

O. L. If the election provides for a levy of taxes on the taxable property within the school district, at least thirty days prior to the election, the department of revenue shall provide the school district governing board and the county school superintendent with an estimate of the school district's assessed valuation used for secondary property tax purposes for the ensuing fiscal year. The governing board and the county school superintendent shall use this estimate to translate the amount of the proposed dollar increase in the budget of the school district over that allowed by law into a tax rate figure.

P. M. If the voters in a school district vote to adopt a budget in excess of the revenue control limit as provided in subsection E or F of this section, any additional increase shall be included in the aggregate budget limit for each of the years authorized. Any additional increase shall be excluded from the determination of equalization assistance. The school district governing board may, however, MAY levy on the assessed valuation used for secondary property tax purposes of the property in the school district the additional increase if adopted under subsection E of this section for the period of one year, two years or five through seven years as authorized. If an additional increase is approved as provided in subsection F of this section, the school district governing board may only use revenues derived from the school district's prior year's maintenance and operation

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fund ending cash balance to fund the additional increase. If a budget increase was previously authorized and will be in effect for the budget year or budget year and subsequent years, as provided in subsection E or F of this section, the governing board may request a new budget increase as provided in the same subsection under which the prior budget increase was adopted which shall not exceed the maximum amount permitted under subsection G of this section. If the voters in the school district authorize the new budget increase amount, the existing budget increase no longer is in effect. If the voters in the school district do not authorize the budget increase amount, the existing budget increase remains in effect for the time period for which it was authorized. The maximum additional increase authorized as provided in subsection E or F of this section and the additional increase which is included in the aggregate budget limit is based on a percentage of a school district's revenue control limit in future years, if the budget increase is authorized for more than one year. If the additional increase:

- 1. Is for two years, the proposed increase in the second year is equal to the initial proposed percentage increase.
- 2. Is for five years or more, the proposed increase is equal to the initial proposed percentage increase in the following years of the proposed increase, except that in the next to last year it is two-thirds of the initial proposed percentage increase and it is one-third of the initial proposed percentage increase in the last year of the proposed increase.
- Q. If the voters in a school district vote to adopt a budget in excess of the revenue control limit as provided in subsection I or J of this section, any additional increase shall be included in the aggregate budget limit for each of the years authorized. Any additional increase shall be excluded from the determination of equalization assistance. The school district governing board, however, may levy on the assessed valuation used for secondary property tax purposes of the property in the school district the additional increase if adopted under subsection I of this section for the period of one year, two years or five through seven years as authorized. If an additional increase is approved as provided in subsection J of this section, the increase may only be budgeted and expended if sufficient monies are available in the maintenance and operation fund of the school district. If a budget increase was previously authorized and will be in effect for the budget year or budget year and subsequent years, as provided in subsection I or J of this section, the governing board may request a new budget increase as provided in the same subsection under which the prior budget increase was adopted that does not exceed the maximum amount permitted under subsection K of this section. If the voters in the school district authorize the new budget increase amount, the existing budget increase no longer is in effect. If the voters in the school district do not authorize the budget increase amount, the existing budget increase remains in effect for the time period for which it was authorized. The maximum additional increase authorized as provided in subsection I or J of this section and the additional increase

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that is included in the aggregate budget limit is based on a percentage of a school district's revenue control limit in future years, if the budget increase is authorized for more than one year. If the additional increase:

1. Is for two years, the proposed increase in the second year is equal to the initial proposed percentage increase.

2. Is for five years or more, the proposed increase is equal to the initial proposed percentage increase in the following years of the proposed increase, except that in the next to last year it is two thirds of the initial proposed percentage increase and it is one third of the initial proposed percentage increase in the last year of the proposed increase.

R. N. If the voters in a school district vote to adopt a budget in excess of the capital outlay revenue limit as provided in subsection  $\sqsubseteq$  I of this section, any additional increase shall be included in the aggregate budget limit for each of the years authorized. The additional increase shall be excluded from the determination of equalization assistance. The school district governing board  $\frac{may}{may}$ , however, MAY levy on the assessed valuation used for secondary property tax purposes of the property in the school district the additional increase for the period authorized but not to exceed ten years. For overrides approved by a vote of the qualified electors of the school district at an election held from and after October 31, 1998, the period of the additional increase prescribed in this subsection shall not exceed seven years for any capital override election.

S. O. If the voters in a school district vote to adopt a budget in excess of the capital outlay revenue limit as provided in subsection  $^{\rm M}$ — J of this section, any additional increase shall be included in the aggregate budget limit for each of the years authorized. The additional increase shall be excluded from the determination of equalization assistance. The school district governing board may only use revenues derived from the school district's prior year's maintenance and operation fund ending cash balance and capital outlay fund ending cash balance to fund the additional increase for the period authorized but not to exceed ten years. For overrides approved by a vote of the qualified electors of the school district at an election held from and after October 31, 1998, the period of the additional increase prescribed in this subsection shall not exceed seven years for any capital override election.

 $\mathsf{T.}$  P. In addition to subsections  $\mathsf{P-}$  M and  $\mathsf{S-}$  O of this section, from the maintenance and operation fund and capital outlay fund ending cash balances, the school district governing board shall first use any available revenues to reduce its primary tax rate to zero and shall use any remaining revenues to fund the additional increase authorized as provided in subsections F and  $\mathsf{M-}$  J of this section.

U. Q. If the voters in a school district disapprove the proposed budget, the alternate budget which, except for any budget increase authorized by a prior election, does not include an increase in the budget in excess of

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the amount provided in section 15-905 shall be adopted by the governing board as provided in section 15-905.

- V. R. The governing board may request that any override election be cancelled if any change in chapter 9 of this title changes the amount of the aggregate budget limit as provided in section 15-905. The request to cancel the override election shall be made to the county school superintendent at least ten days prior to the date of the scheduled override election.
- $box{W.}$  S. For any election conducted pursuant to subsection  $\cfrac{L}{L}$  I or  $\cfrac{M}{L}$  J of this section:
- 1. The ballot shall include the following statement in addition to any other statement required by this section:

The capital improvements that are proposed to be funded through this override election are to exceed the state standards and are in addition to monies provided by the state.

school district is proposing to increase its
budget by \$ to fund capital improvements over and
above those funded by the state. Under the students first
capital funding system, school district is entitled to
state monies for building renewal, new construction and
renovation of school buildings in accordance with state law.

- 2. The ballot shall contain the words "budget increase, yes" and "budget increase, no", and the voter shall signify the voter's desired choice.
- 3. At least eighty-five days before the election, the school district shall submit proposed ballot language to the director of the Arizona legislative council. The director of the Arizona legislative council shall review the proposed ballot language to determine whether the proposed ballot language complies with this section. If the director of the Arizona legislative council determines that the proposed ballot language does not comply with this section, the director, within ten calendar days of the receipt of the proposed ballot language, shall notify the school district of the director's objections and the school district shall resubmit revised ballot language to the director for approval.
- $\frac{\mathsf{X.}}{\mathsf{I}}$  T. If the voters approve the budget increase pursuant to subsection  $\frac{\mathsf{L}}{\mathsf{I}}$  or  $\frac{\mathsf{M}}{\mathsf{I}}$  of this section, the school district shall not use the override proceeds for any purposes other than the proposed capital improvements listed in the publicity pamphlet, except that up to ten per cent of the override proceeds may be used for general capital expenses, including cost overruns of proposed capital improvements.
- Y. U. Each school district that currently increases its budget pursuant to subsection  $\vdash$  I or  $\vdash$  J of this section is required to hold a public meeting each year between September 1 and October 31 at which an update of the progress of capital improvements financed through the override is discussed and at which the public is permitted an opportunity to comment. At a minimum, the update shall include a comparison of the current status and

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the original projections on the construction of capital improvements, the costs of capital improvements and the costs of capital improvements in progress or completed since the prior meeting and the future capital plans of the school district. The school district shall include in the public meeting a discussion of the school district's use of state capital aid and voter-approved bonding in funding capital improvements, if any.

 $\frac{Z_{-}}{V}$ . If a budget in excess of the capital outlay revenue limit was previously adopted by the voters in a school district and will be in effect for the budget year or budget year and subsequent years, as provided in subsection  $\frac{1}{V}$  I or  $\frac{1}{V}$  Of this section, the governing board may request an additional budget in excess of the capital outlay revenue limit. If the voters in a school district authorize the additional budget in excess of the capital outlay revenue limit, the existing capital outlay revenue limit budget increase remains in effect.

Sec. 4. Section 15-901, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read: 15-901. Definitions

- A. In this title, unless the context otherwise requires:
- 1. "Average daily attendance" or "ADA" means actual average daily attendance through the first one hundred days or two hundred days in session, as applicable.
- 2. "Average daily membership" means the total enrollment of fractional students and full-time students, minus withdrawals, of each school day through the first one hundred days or two hundred days in session, as applicable, for the current year. Withdrawals include students formally withdrawn from schools and students absent for ten consecutive school days, except for excused absences as identified by the department of education. For computation purposes, the effective date of withdrawal shall be retroactive to the last day of actual attendance of the student.
  - (a) "Fractional student" means:
- (i) For common schools, until fiscal year 2001-2002, a preschool child who is enrolled in a program for preschool children with disabilities of at least three hundred sixty minutes each week or a kindergarten student at least five years of age prior to January 1 of the school year and enrolled in a school kindergarten program that meets at least three hundred forty-six instructional hours during the minimum number of days required in a school year as provided in section 15-341. In fiscal year 2001-2002, the kindergarten program shall meet at least three hundred forty-eight hours. In fiscal year 2002–2003, the kindergarten program shall meet at least three hundred fifty hours. In fiscal year 2003-2004, the kindergarten program shall meet at least three hundred fifty-two hours. In fiscal year 2004-2005, the kindergarten program shall meet at least three hundred fifty-four hours. In fiscal year 2005-2006 and each fiscal year thereafter, the kindergarten program shall meet at least three hundred fifty-six hours. Lunch periods and recess periods may not be included as part of the instructional hours unless the child's individualized education program requires instruction during

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those periods and the specific reasons for such instruction are fully documented. In computing the average daily membership, preschool children with disabilities and kindergarten students shall be counted as one-half of a full-time student. For common schools, a part-time student is a student enrolled for less than the total time for a full-time student as defined in this section. A part-time common school student shall be counted as one-fourth, one-half or three-fourths of a full-time student if the student is enrolled in an instructional program that is at least one-fourth, one-half or three-fourths of the time a full-time student is enrolled as defined in subdivision (b) of this paragraph.

- (ii) For high schools, a part-time student who is enrolled in less than four subjects that count toward graduation as defined by the state board of education in a recognized high school and who is taught in less than twenty instructional hours per week prorated for any week with fewer than five school days. A part-time high school student shall be counted as one-fourth, one-half or three-fourths of a full-time student if the student is enrolled in an instructional program that is at least one-fourth, one-half or three-fourths of a full-time instructional program as defined in subdivision (c) of this paragraph.
  - (b) "Full-time student" means:
- (i) For common schools, a student who is at least six years of age prior to January 1 of a school year, who has not graduated from the highest grade taught in the school district and who is regularly enrolled in a course of study required by the state board of education. Until fiscal year 2001-2002, first, second and third grade students, ungraded students at least six, but under nine, years of age by September 1 or ungraded group B children with disabilities who are at least five, but under six, years of age by September 1 must be enrolled in an instructional program that meets for a total of at least six hundred ninety-two hours during the minimum number of days required in a school year as provided in section 15-341. In fiscal year 2001-2002, the program shall meet at least six hundred ninety-six hours. In fiscal year 2002-2003, the program shall meet at least seven hundred hours. In fiscal year 2003-2004, the program shall meet at least seven hundred four hours. In fiscal year 2004-2005, the program shall meet at least seven hundred eight hours. In fiscal year 2005-2006 and in each fiscal year thereafter, the program shall meet at least seven hundred twelve hours. Until fiscal year 2001–2002, fourth, fifth and sixth grade students or ungraded students at least nine, but under twelve, years of age by September 1 must be enrolled in an instructional program that meets for a total of at least eight hundred sixty-five hours during the minimum number of school days required in a school year as provided in section 15-341. In fiscal year 2001-2002, the program shall meet at least eight hundred seventy hours. In fiscal year 2002–2003, the program shall meet at least eight hundred seventy-five hours. In fiscal year 2003–2004, the program shall meet at least eight hundred eighty hours. In fiscal year 2004–2005, the program shall meet

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at least eight hundred eighty-five hours. In fiscal year 2005-2006 and each fiscal year thereafter, the program shall meet at least eight hundred ninety Until fiscal year 2001–2002, seventh and eighth grade students or ungraded students at least twelve, but under fourteen, years of age by September 1 must be enrolled in an instructional program that meets for a total of at least one thousand thirty-eight hours during the minimum number of days required in a school year as provided in section 15–341. In fiscal year 2001-2002, the program shall meet at least one thousand forty-four hours. In fiscal year 2002–2003, the program shall meet at least one thousand fifty hours. In fiscal year 2003-2004, the program shall meet at least one thousand fifty-six hours. In fiscal year 2004-2005, the program shall meet at least one thousand sixty-two hours. In fiscal year 2005-2006 and each fiscal year thereafter, the program shall meet at least one thousand sixty-eight hours. Lunch periods and recess periods may not be included as part of the instructional hours unless the student is a child with a disability and the child's individualized education program requires instruction during those periods and the specific reasons for such instruction are fully documented.

- (ii) For high schools, except as provided in section 15-105, a student not graduated from the highest grade taught in the school district, or an ungraded student at least fourteen years of age by September 1, and enrolled in at least a full-time instructional program of subjects that count toward graduation as defined by the state board of education in a recognized high school. A full-time student shall not be counted more than once for computation of average daily membership.
- (iii) For homebound or hospitalized, a student receiving at least four hours of instruction per week.
  - (c) "Full-time instructional program" means:
- (i) Through fiscal year 2000-2001, at least four subjects, each of which, if taught each school day for the minimum number of days required in a school year, would meet a minimum of one hundred twenty hours a year, or the equivalent, or one or more subjects taught in amounts of time totaling at least twenty hours per week prorated for any week with fewer than five school days.
- (ii) For fiscal year 2001-2002, an instructional program that meets at least a total of seven hundred four hours during the minimum number of days required and includes at least four subjects each of which, if taught each school day for the minimum number of days required in a school year, would meet a minimum of one hundred twenty-two hours a year, or the equivalent, or one or more subjects taught in amounts of time totaling at least twenty hours per week prorated for any week with fewer than five school days.
- (iii) For fiscal year 2002-2003, an instructional program that meets at least a total of seven hundred eight hours during the minimum number of days required and includes at least four subjects each of which, if taught each school day for the minimum number of days required in a school year,

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would meet a minimum of one hundred twenty-two hours a year, or the equivalent, or one or more subjects taught in amounts of time totaling at least twenty hours per week prorated for any week with fewer than five school days.

- (iv) For fiscal year 2003-2004, an instructional program that meets at least a total of seven hundred twelve hours during the minimum number of days required and includes at least four subjects each of which, if taught each school day for the minimum number of days required in a school year, would meet a minimum of one hundred twenty-three hours a year, or the equivalent, or one or more subjects taught in amounts of time totaling at least twenty hours per week prorated for any week with fewer than five school days.
- (v) For fiscal year 2004-2005, an instructional program that meets at least a total of seven hundred sixteen hours during the minimum number of days required and includes at least four subjects each of which, if taught each school day for the minimum number of days required in a school year, would meet a minimum of one hundred twenty-three hours a year, or the equivalent, or one or more subjects taught in amounts of time totaling at least twenty hours per week prorated for any week with fewer than five school days.
- (vi) For fiscal year 2005-2006 and each fiscal year thereafter, an instructional program that meets at least a total of seven hundred twenty hours during the minimum number of days required and includes at least four subjects each of which, if taught each school day for the minimum number of days required in a school year, would meet a minimum of one hundred twenty-three hours a year, or the equivalent, or one or more subjects taught in amounts of time totaling at least twenty hours per week prorated for any week with fewer than five school days.
- 3. "Budget year" means the fiscal year for which the school district is budgeting and which immediately follows the current year.
- 4. "Common school district" means a political subdivision of this state offering instruction to students in programs for preschool children with disabilities and kindergarten programs and grades one through eight.
- 5. "Current year" means the fiscal year in which a school district is operating.
  - 6. "Daily attendance" means:
  - (a) For common schools, days in which a pupil:
- (i) Of a kindergarten program or ungraded, but not group B children with disabilities, and at least five, but under six, years of age by September 1 attends at least three-quarters of the instructional time scheduled for the day. If the total instruction time scheduled for the year is at least three hundred forty-six hours but is less than six hundred ninety-two hours such attendance shall be counted as one-half day of attendance. If the instructional time scheduled for the year is at least six hundred ninety-two hours, "daily attendance" means days in which a pupil

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attends at least one-half of the instructional time scheduled for the day. Such attendance shall be counted as one-half day of attendance.

- (ii) Of the first, second or third grades, ungraded and at least six, but under nine, years of age by September 1 or ungraded group B children with disabilities and at least five, but under six, years of age by September 1 attends more than three-quarters of the instructional time scheduled for the day.
- (iii) Of the fourth, fifth or sixth grades or ungraded and at least nine, but under twelve, years of age by September 1 attends more than three-quarters of the instructional time scheduled for the day, except as provided in section 15-797.
- (iv) Of the seventh or eighth grades or ungraded and at least twelve, but under fourteen, years of age by September 1 attends more than three-quarters of the instructional time scheduled for the day, except as provided in section 15-797.
- (b) For common schools, the attendance of a pupil at three-quarters or less of the instructional time scheduled for the day shall be counted as follows, except as provided in section 15-797 and except that attendance for a fractional student shall not exceed the pupil's fractional membership:
- (i) If attendance for all pupils in the school is based on quarter days, the attendance of a pupil shall be counted as one-fourth of a day's attendance for each one-fourth of full-time instructional time attended.
- (ii) If attendance for all pupils in the school is based on half days, the attendance of at least three-quarters of the instructional time scheduled for the day shall be counted as a full day's attendance and attendance at a minimum of one-half but less than three-quarters of the instructional time scheduled for the day equals one-half day of attendance.
- (c) For common schools, the attendance of a preschool child with disabilities shall be counted as one-fourth day's attendance for each thirty-six minutes of attendance not including lunch periods and recess periods, except as provided in paragraph 2, subdivision (a), item (i) of this subsection for children with disabilities up to a maximum of three hundred sixty minutes each week.
- (d) For high schools or ungraded schools in which the pupil is at least fourteen years of age by September 1, the attendance of a pupil shall not be counted as a full day unless the pupil is actually and physically in attendance and enrolled in and carrying four subjects, each of which, if taught each school day for the minimum number of days required in a school year, would meet a minimum of one hundred twenty hours a year, or the equivalent, that count toward graduation in a recognized high school except as provided in section 15-797 and subdivision (e) of this paragraph. Attendance of a pupil carrying less than the load prescribed shall be prorated.
- (e) For high schools or ungraded schools in which the pupil is at least fourteen years of age by September 1, the attendance of a pupil may be

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counted as one-fourth of a day's attendance for each sixty minutes of instructional time in a subject that counts toward graduation, except that attendance for a pupil shall not exceed the pupil's full or fractional membership.

- (f) For homebound or hospitalized, a full day of attendance may be counted for each day during a week in which the student receives at least four hours of instruction.
- (g) For school districts which maintain school for an approved year-round school year operation, attendance shall be based on a computation, as prescribed by the superintendent of public instruction, of the one hundred eighty days' equivalency or two hundred days' equivalency, as applicable, of instructional time as approved by the superintendent of public instruction during which each pupil is enrolled.
  - 7. "Daily route mileage" means the sum of:
- (a) The total number of miles driven daily by all buses of a school district while transporting eligible students from their residence to the school of attendance and from the school of attendance to their residence on scheduled routes approved by the superintendent of public instruction.
- (b) The total number of miles driven daily on routes approved by the superintendent of public instruction for which a private party, a political subdivision or a common or a contract carrier is reimbursed for bringing an eligible student from the place of his residence to a school transportation pickup point or to the school of attendance and from the school transportation scheduled return point or from the school of attendance to his residence. Daily route mileage includes the total number of miles necessary to drive to transport eligible students from and to their residence as provided in this paragraph.
- 8. "District support level" means the base support level plus the transportation support level.
  - 9. "Eligible students" means:
- (a) Students who are transported by or for a school district and who qualify as full-time students or fractional students, except students for whom transportation is paid by another school district or a county school superintendent, and:
- (i) For common school students, whose place of actual residence within the school district is more than one mile from the school facility of attendance or students who are admitted pursuant to section 15-816.01 and who meet the economic eligibility requirements established under the national school lunch and child nutrition acts (42 United States Code sections 1751 through 1785) for free or reduced price lunches and whose actual place of residence outside the school district boundaries is more than one mile from the school facility of attendance.
- (ii) For high school students, whose place of actual residence within the school district is more than one and one-half miles from the school facility of attendance or students who are admitted pursuant to section

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15-816.01 and who meet the economic eligibility requirements established under the national school lunch and child nutrition acts (42 United States Code sections 1751 through 1785) for free or reduced price lunches and whose actual place of residence outside the school district boundaries is more than one and one-half miles from the school facility of attendance.

- (b) Kindergarten students, for purposes of computing the number of eligible students under subdivision (a), item (i) of this paragraph, shall be counted as full-time students, notwithstanding any other provision of law.
- (c) Children with disabilities, as defined by section 15-761, who are transported by or for the school district or who are admitted pursuant to chapter 8, article 1.1 of this title and who qualify as full-time students or fractional students regardless of location or residence within the school district or children with disabilities whose transportation is required by the pupil's individualized education program.
- (d) Students whose residence is outside the school district and who are transported within the school district on the same basis as students who reside in the school district.
- 10. "Enrolled" or "enrollment" means when a pupil is currently registered in the school district.
- 11. "GDP price deflator" means the average of the four implicit price deflators for the gross domestic product reported by the United States department of commerce for the four quarters of the calendar year.
- 12. "High school district" means a political subdivision of this state offering instruction to students for grades nine through twelve or that portion of the budget of a common school district which is allocated to teaching high school subjects with permission of the state board of education.
- 13. "Revenue control limit" means the base revenue control limit plus the transportation revenue control limit.
- 14. "Student count" means average daily membership as prescribed in this subsection for the fiscal year prior to the current year, except that for the purpose of budget preparation student count means average daily membership as prescribed in this subsection for the current year.
- 15. "Submit electronically" means submitted in a format and in a manner prescribed by the department of education.
- 16. "Total bus mileage" means the total number of miles driven by all buses of a school district during the school year.
- 17. "Total students transported" means all eligible students transported from their place of residence to a school transportation pickup point or to the school of attendance and from the school of attendance or from the school transportation scheduled return point to their place of residence.
- 18. "Unified school district" means a political subdivision of the state offering instruction to students in programs for preschool children with disabilities and kindergarten programs and grades one through twelve.

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- B. In this title, unless the context otherwise requires:
- 1. "Base" means the revenue level per student count specified by the legislature.
  - 2. "Base level" means:
- (a) For fiscal year 2006-2007, three thousand one hundred thirty-three dollars fifty-three cents.
- (b) For fiscal year 2007-2008, three thousand two hundred twenty-six dollars eighty-eight cents.
- (c) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008-2009, THREE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED NINETY-ONE DOLLARS FORTY-TWO CENTS.
- 3. "Base revenue control limit" means the base revenue control limit computed as provided in section 15-944.
- 4. "Base support level" means the base support level as provided in section 15-943.
- 5. "Certified teacher" means a person who is certified as a teacher pursuant to the rules adopted by the state board of education, who renders direct and personal services to school children in the form of instruction related to the school district's educational course of study and who is paid from the maintenance and operation section of the budget.
- 6. "ED, MIMR, SLD, SLI and OHI" means programs for children with emotional disabilities, mild mental retardation, a specific learning disability, a speech/language impairment and other health impairments.
- 7. "ED-P" means programs for children with emotional disabilities who are enrolled in private special education programs as prescribed in section 15-765, subsection D, paragraph 1 or in an intensive school district program as provided in section 15-765, subsection D, paragraph 2.
- 8. "ELL" means English learners who do not speak English or whose native language is not English, who are not currently able to perform ordinary classroom work in English and who are enrolled in an English language education program pursuant to sections 15-751, 15-752 and 15-753.
- 9. "Full-time equivalent certified teacher" or "FTE certified teacher" means for a certified teacher the following:
  - (a) If employed full time as defined in section 15-501, 1.00.
- (b) If employed less than full time, multiply 1.00 by the percentage of a full school day, or its equivalent, or a full class load, or its equivalent, for which the teacher is employed as determined by the governing board.
- 10. "Group A" means educational programs for career exploration, a specific learning disability, an emotional disability, mild mental retardation, remedial education, a speech/language impairment, homebound, bilingual, preschool moderate delay, preschool speech/language delay, other health impairments and gifted pupils.
- 11. "Group B" means educational improvements for pupils in kindergarten programs and grades one through three, educational programs for autism, a hearing impairment, moderate mental retardation, multiple disabilities,

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multiple disabilities with severe sensory impairment, orthopedic impairments, preschool severe delay, severe mental retardation and emotional disabilities for school age pupils enrolled in private special education programs or in school district programs for children with severe disabilities or visual impairment and English learners enrolled in a program to promote English language proficiency pursuant to section 15-752.

- 12. "HI" means programs for pupils with hearing impairment.
- "Homebound" or "hospitalized" means a pupil who is capable of profiting from academic instruction but is unable to attend school due to illness, disease, accident or other health conditions, who has been examined by a competent medical doctor and who is certified by that doctor as being unable to attend regular classes for a period of not less than three school months or a pupil who is capable of profiting from academic instruction but is unable to attend school regularly due to chronic or acute health problems, who has been examined by a competent medical doctor and who is certified by that doctor as being unable to attend regular classes for intermittent periods of time totaling three school months during a school year. medical certification shall state the general medical condition, such as illness, disease or chronic health condition, that is the reason that the pupil is unable to attend school. Homebound or hospitalized includes a student who is unable to attend school for a period of less than three months due to a pregnancy if a competent medical doctor, after an examination, certifies that the student is unable to attend regular classes due to risk to the pregnancy or to the student's health.
  - 14. "K" means kindergarten programs.
  - 15. "K-3" means kindergarten programs and grades one through three.
- 16. "MD-R, A-R and SMR-R" means resource programs for pupils with multiple disabilities, autism and severe mental retardation.
- 17. "MD-SC, A-SC and SMR-SC" means self-contained programs for pupils with multiple disabilities, autism and severe mental retardation.
- 18. "MDSSI" means a program for pupils with multiple disabilities with severe sensory impairment.
  - 19. "MOMR" means programs for pupils with moderate mental retardation.
- 20. "OI-R" means a resource program for pupils with orthopedic impairments.
- 21. "OI-SC" means a self-contained program for pupils with orthopedic impairments.
- 22. "PSD" means preschool programs for children with disabilities as provided in section 15-771.
- 23. "P-SD" means programs for children who meet the definition of preschool severe delay as provided in section 15-771.
- 24. "Qualifying tax rate" means the qualifying tax rate specified in section 15-971 applied to the assessed valuation used for primary property taxes.

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- 25. "Small isolated school district" means a school district which meets all of the following:
- (a) Has a student count of fewer than six hundred in kindergarten programs and grades one through eight or grades nine through twelve.
- (b) Contains no school which is fewer than thirty miles by the most reasonable route from another school, or, if road conditions and terrain make the driving slow or hazardous, fifteen miles from another school which teaches one or more of the same grades and is operated by another school district in this state.
- (c) Is designated as a small isolated school district by the superintendent of public instruction.
- 26. "Small school district" means a school district which meets all of the following:
- (a) Has a student count of fewer than six hundred in kindergarten programs and grades one through eight or grades nine through twelve.
- (b) Contains at least one school which is fewer than thirty miles by the most reasonable route from another school which teaches one or more of the same grades and is operated by another school district in this state.
- (c) Is designated as a small school district by the superintendent of public instruction.
- 27. "Transportation revenue control limit" means the transportation revenue control limit computed as prescribed in section 15-946.
- 28. "Transportation support level" means the support level for pupil transportation operating expenses as provided in section 15-945.
  - 29. "VI" means programs for pupils with visual impairments.
- 30. "Voc. Ed." means career and technical education and vocational education programs, as defined in section 15-781.
  - Sec. 5. Section 15-945, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read: 15-945. <u>Transportation support level</u>
- A. The support level for to and from school for each school district for the current year shall be computed as follows:
- 1. Determine the approved daily route mileage of the school district for the fiscal year prior to the current year.
- 2. Multiply the figure obtained in paragraph 1 of this subsection by one hundred eighty.
- 3. Determine the number of eligible students transported in the fiscal year prior to the current year.
- 4. Divide the amount determined in paragraph 1 of this subsection by the amount determined in paragraph 3 of this subsection to determine the approved daily route mileage per eligible student transported.
- 5. Determine the classification in column 1 of this paragraph for the quotient determined in paragraph 4 of this subsection. Multiply the product obtained in paragraph 2 of this subsection by the corresponding state support level for each route mile as provided in column 2 of this paragraph.

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1 Column 1 Column 2 2 Approved Daily Route State Support Level per Mileage per Eligible Route Mile for <u>Fiscal Year 2007-2008 2008-2009</u> Student Transported 4 5 0.5 or less <del>\$2.23</del> \$2.27 More than 0.5 through 1.0 <del>\$1.81</del> \$1.85 7 More than 1.0 <del>\$2.23</del> \$2.27

- 6. Add the amount spent during the prior fiscal year for bus tokens and bus passes for students who qualify as eligible students as defined in section 15-901.
- B. The support level for academic education, career and technical education, vocational education and athletic trips for each school district for the current year is computed as follows:
- 1. Determine the classification in column 1 of paragraph 2 of this subsection for the quotient determined in subsection A, paragraph 4 of this section.
- 2. Multiply the product obtained in subsection A, paragraph 5 of this section by the corresponding state support level for academic education, career and technical education, vocational education and athletic trips as provided in column 2, 3 or 4 of this paragraph, whichever is appropriate for the type of district.

22	<u>Column 1</u>	<u>Column 2</u>	<u>Column 3</u>	<u>Column 4</u>
23	Approved Daily Route			
24	Mileage per Eligible	District Type	District Type	District Type
25	Student Transported	<u>02 or 03</u>	04	05
26	0.5 or less	0.15	0.10	0.25
27	More than 0.5 through 1.0	0.15	0.10	0.25
28	More than 1.0	0.18	0.12	0.30

For the purposes of this paragraph, "district type 02" means a unified school district or an accommodation school that offers instruction in grades nine through twelve, "district type 03" means a common school district not within a high school district, "district type 04" means a common school district within a high school district or an accommodation school that does not offer instruction in grades nine through twelve and "district type 05" means a high school district.

- C. The support level for extended school year services for pupils with disabilities is computed as follows:
  - 1. Determine the sum of the following:
- (a) The total number of miles driven by all buses of a school district while transporting eligible pupils with disabilities on scheduled routes from their residence to the school of attendance and from the school of attendance to their residence on routes for extended school year services in accordance with section 15-881.
- (b) The total number of miles driven on routes approved by the superintendent of public instruction for which a private party, a political

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subdivision or a common or a contract carrier is reimbursed for bringing an eligible pupil with a disability from the place of the pupil's residence to a school transportation pickup point or to the school facility of attendance and from the school transportation scheduled return point or from the school facility to the pupil's residence for extended school year services in accordance with section 15-881.

- 2. Multiply the sum determined in paragraph 1 of this subsection by the state support level for the district determined as provided in subsection A, paragraph 5 of this section.
- D. The transportation support level for each school district for the current year is the sum of the support level for to and from school as determined in subsection A of this section, the support level for academic education, career and technical education, vocational education and athletic trips as determined in subsection B of this section and the support level for extended school year services for pupils with disabilities as determined in subsection C of this section.
- E. The state support level for each approved route mile, as provided in subsection A, paragraph 5 of this section, shall be adjusted by the growth rate prescribed by law, subject to appropriation.
  - Sec. 6. Section 15-1102, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read: 15-1102. Disposition of proceeds from sale or lease of school property; school plant monies; payment of bonded indebtedness; definition
- A. The governing board, or the superintendent or chief administrative officer with the approval of the governing board, may expend the proceeds from the sale or lease of school property for the payment of any outstanding bonded indebtedness of the school district or for the reduction of school district taxes.
- B. A common school district or high school district which has an outstanding bonded indebtedness of seven per cent of the current year's assessed valuation or less or a unified school district which has an outstanding bonded indebtedness of fourteen per cent of the current year's assessed valuation or less may expend the proceeds from the sale or lease of school property for maintenance and operation or capital outlay, subject to the following limitations:
- 1. During the period that proceeds from the sale or lease of school property are used for capital outlay, the school district shall not call an override election to exceed the capital outlay revenue limit, except that during the last year of that period the school district may authorize an override election to exceed the capital outlay revenue limit beginning with the following year.
- 2. The total sum of the proceeds from the sale of school property before July 1, 1998 or the lease of school property for more than one year expended for maintenance and operation shall not exceed fifteen per cent of the revenue control limit as provided in section 15-947, subsection A in any

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year of which ten per cent may be used without voter approval and an additional five per cent may be used if the additional amount is approved by a majority of the qualified electors voting in an election called for such purposes. The election shall be conducted and notice and ballots shall be prepared as provided in section 15-481. Proceeds from the sale of school property from and after June 30, 1998 shall not be expended for maintenance and operation.

- 3. In any fiscal year in which a district utilizes budget increases as authorized in section 15-481, subsection E or F or section 15-482 or utilizes the proceeds from the sale of school property before July 1, 1998 or the lease of school property for more than one year for maintenance and operation or any combination of these provisions, the total amount of these increases which may be expended is equal to fifteen per cent of the revenue control limit for that year as provided in section 15-947, subsection A, provided that the following maximum amount is attributable to the use of any one provision:
- (a) Fifteen per cent of the revenue control limit when using the proceeds from the sale before July 1, 1998 or lease of school property for maintenance and operation as provided in this section.
- (b) Ten FIFTEEN per cent of the revenue control limit when using a budget increase as provided in section 15-481, subsection E or F, or both.
- (c) Five per cent of the revenue control limit when using a budget increase as provided in section 15-482.
- C. A common school district or high school district which has an outstanding bonded indebtedness of greater than seven per cent of the current year's assessed valuation or a unified school district which has an outstanding bonded indebtedness of greater than fourteen per cent of the current year's assessed valuation may expend the proceeds from the lease or sale of school property as follows:
- 1. For maintenance and operation the expenditure may not exceed the lesser of the limit in subsection B, paragraph 2 or 3 of this section or the amount of the proceeds from the lease of school property multiplied by .25.
  - 2. For capital outlay, the expenditure of the proceeds:
- (a) From the sale of school property may not exceed the amount of the proceeds multiplied by .62.
  - (b) From the lease of school property is not limited.
- D. The governing board, or the superintendent or chief administrative officer with the approval of the governing board, shall promptly deposit monies received for and derived from the sale or lease of school property with the county treasurer who shall establish three school plant funds, one fund for monies received from the sale before July 1, 1998 or lease of school property for more than one year, one fund for monies received from the sale of school property from and after June 30, 1998 and one fund for monies received from the lease of school property for one year or less. The county treasurer shall credit the deposits to the respective school plant fund of

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the respective school district. Monies placed to the credit of the school plant funds may be expended as provided in this section. The school plant funds are continuing funds not subject to reversion.

- E. Notwithstanding subsection C of this section, the governing board, or the superintendent or chief administrative officer with the approval of the governing board, may expend the proceeds from the sale before July 1, 1998 or lease of school property for the additional maintenance and operations expenses incurred as the result of operating on a year-round school year operation basis pursuant to section 15-855. The amount that the governing board, superintendent or chief administrative officer may expend for a year-round school year operation, as provided in this subsection, is limited to the actual maintenance and operations costs incurred as the result of the year-round school year operation as documented in the school district's budget as provided in section 15-855. A governing board, superintendent or chief administrative officer that utilizes the provisions of this subsection is subject to all other limitations prescribed in this section regarding the expenditure of proceeds from the sale before July 1, 1998 or lease of school property.
- F. Notwithstanding subsections B and D of this section, if the school district electors approve the sale of school property and the use of the proceeds for the purchase of school sites or the construction, improvement or furnishing of school facilities, the proceeds from the sale shall be put in a separate fund for use for the approved purpose as prescribed by the uniform system of financial records. This fund is a continuing fund not subject to reversion, except that after ten years any unexpended monies shall be put in the school plant fund for use as prescribed in this section.
- G. Proceeds from sales by condemnation or sales under threat of condemnation may be deposited with the county treasurer for deposit in the condemnation fund or the school plant fund of the school district. The condemnation fund is a continuing fund not subject to reversion, except that after ten years any unspent monies shall be placed in the school plant fund to be used as prescribed in this section. The governing board, or the superintendent or chief administrative officer with the approval of the governing board, may apply the proceeds in the condemnation fund to:
- 1. The payment of any outstanding bonded indebtedness of the school district which is payable from the levy of taxes upon property within the school district.
- 2. Construct, acquire, improve, repair or furnish school facilities or sites after notice and a hearing.
- H. Proceeds from a right-of-way settlement shall be deposited with the county treasurer for deposit in the condemnation fund of the school district. The governing board, or the superintendent or chief administrative officer with the approval of the governing board, shall apply such proceeds in the condemnation fund to construct, acquire, improve, repair or furnish school facilities or sites after notice and a hearing.

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I. For THE purposes of this section, "capital outlay" means unrestricted capital outlay as prescribed in section 15-903, subsection C. Sec. 7. Section 15-2104, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

15-2104. <u>Impact aid revenue bond building and debt service</u> funds

A. If a school district issues impact aid revenue bonds under this article, the governing board shall establish:

- 1. An impact aid revenue bond building fund consisting of the net proceeds received from the sale of the bonds. The fund shall be a continuing fund that is not subject to reversion.
- 2. An impact aid revenue bond debt service fund consisting of monies received by the school district from impact aid revenues.
- B. Monies in the impact aid revenue bond building fund and the impact aid revenue bond debt service fund may be used only for the purposes authorized by this article.
- C. The school district shall provide the county treasurer with an impact aid revenue bond debt service schedule. The county treasurer shall keep an account of all school district debt service funds that shows the school district to which each fund belongs. The county treasurer shall credit to the impact aid revenue bond debt service fund an amount from impact aid revenues equal to the principal and interest that will become due on the impact aid revenue bonds during the current year. The treasurer shall receive and credit any interest or income earned by the debt service fund.
- D. Notwithstanding any other provision in this article, the annual payment of principal and interest on impact aid revenue bonds each year shall not exceed seventy-five per cent of the net impact aid revenues of the school district for the current year. For the purposes of this subsection, "net impact aid revenues" mean MEANS impact aid revenues for the year after deducting the sum of the following amounts:
- 1. The amount of any increase in the school district's general budget limit pursuant to section 15-905, subsections K, O and P.
- 2. The amount necessary to fund any budget override adopted pursuant to section 15-481, subsection  $F_{,}$  or  $M_{}$  J.
- 3. The amount that would be produced by levying the applicable qualifying tax rate as provided in section 15-971, subsection B, minus the amount levied for primary school district taxes for the year pursuant to section 15-992, except that if the result is a negative number,  $\frac{\text{use}}{\text{LL}}$  THE AMOUNT IS zero.

## Sec. 8. Savings clause

A. This act does not affect any special budget overrides pursuant to section 15-482, Arizona Revised Statutes, as repealed by this act, that were approved by the qualified electors of a school district before the effective date of this act. Special budget overrides pursuant to section 15-482, Arizona Revised Statutes, as repealed by this act, that were approved by the qualified electors of a school district before the effective date of this act

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shall continue for the duration previously authorized by the qualified electors or until the qualified electors of the school district subsequently approve a budget increase in an amount exceeding ten per cent of the revenue control limit as prescribed in section 15-481, subsection G, Arizona Revised Statutes, as amended by this act, whichever occurs first.

B. Beginning on the effective date of this act, no school district may conduct an election after the effective date of this act to submit a request to the qualified electors of a school district to approve a special budget override pursuant to section 15-482, Arizona Revised Statutes, as repealed by this act, or submit a request to the qualified electors of a school district to approve the extension of a previously authorized special budget override pursuant to section 15-482, Arizona Revised Statutes, as repealed by this act.

## Sec. 9. Override election procedures for March 2009 Notwithstanding any other law:

- 1. A school district may conduct an election on the second Tuesday in March 2009 to submit a proposed budget increase to the qualified electors in an amount not to exceed fifteen per cent of the revenue control limit as prescribed in section 15-481, subsection G, Arizona Revised Statutes, as amended by this act. If the proposed increase is approved by the qualified electors of the school district, the approved increase shall replace any previously authorized increases approved by the qualified electors pursuant to section 15-481, subsection E or F, Arizona Revised Statutes, as amended by this act, and section 15-482, Arizona Revised Statutes, as repealed by this act and the replacement shall be as provided in section 15-481, subsection M, Arizona Revised Statutes, as amended by this act.
- 2. If the qualified electors in a school district approve a proposed budget increase in an amount not to exceed ten per cent of the revenue control limit in an election conducted on the first Tuesday in November 2008, a school district may subsequently conduct an election on the second Tuesday in March 2009 to submit a proposed budget increase to the qualified electors in an amount not to exceed an additional five per cent of the revenue control limit.
- 3. If the qualified electors of a common school district have approved both a budget increase that is still in effect on the effective date of this act pursuant to section 15-481, subsection E or F, Arizona Revised Statutes, as amended by this act, and a budget increase that is still in effect on the effective date of this act pursuant to section 15-482, Arizona Revised Statutes, as repealed by this act, the common school district may call an election on the second Tuesday in March 2009 to submit a proposed budget increase to the qualified electors in an amount not to exceed seventeen per cent of the revenue control limit. If the proposed increase is approved by the qualified electors of the school district, the approved increase shall replace any previously authorized increases approved by the qualified electors pursuant to section 15-481, subsection E or F, Arizona

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1 Revised Statutes, as amended by this act, and section 15-482, Arizona Revised 2 Statutes, as repealed by this act and the replacement shall be as provided in section 15-481, subsection M, Arizona Revised Statutes, as amended by this act. If approved by the qualified electors, the common school district may continue to budget the amount not to exceed seventeen per cent of the revenue control limit for the remaining number of years of the override previously 6 7 approved pursuant to section 15-482, Arizona Revised Statutes, as repealed by 8 this act, and for the remaining period of the new override may budget up to 9 fifteen per cent of the revenue control limit, except that the new override 10 shall phase down as provided in section 15-481, subsection M, Arizona Revised 11 Statutes, as amended by this act.

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