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SENATE BILL

No. 128

Introduced by Senator Lowenthal
(Coauthor: Senator Alquist)

January 27, 2011

An act to amend Sections 17074.25 and 17078.72 of the Education Code, relating to school facilities, and making an appropriation therefor.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 128, as amended, Lowenthal. School facilities funding: high-performance schools.

Existing law, the Leroy F. Greene School Facilities Act of 1998 (the Greene Act), requires the State Allocation Board to allocate to applicant school districts prescribed per-unhoused-pupil state funding for construction and modernization of school facilities, including hardship funding and supplemental funding for site development and acquisition and requires the board to adopt rules and regulations for the administration of the Greene Act. The Kindergarten-University Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2006 (the 2006 Bond Act) sets aside \$100,000,000 of the proceeds of the bonds sold under that act for incentive grants under the Greene Act to promote the use of design and materials in new construction and modernization projects that include the attributes of high-performance schools.

Existing law authorizes a modernization apportionment to be used for an improvement to extend the useful life of, or to enhance the physical environment of, the school, and specifies the types of costs that may be included in the improvement.

This bill would add the cost of designs and materials that support the characteristics of high-performance schools to the types of costs that may be included in the improvement.

Existing law establishes the Career Technical Education Facilities Program to provide new construction and modernization grants to qualified local educational agencies for career technical education program facilities, and establishes a maximum grant amount per project.

This bill *also* would ~~also~~ make those new construction and modernization projects eligible for an incentive grant if the project meets the criteria prescribed in the 2006 Bond Act for incentive grants to high-performance schools. By allowing an existing appropriation to be spent for a new purpose, the bill would make an appropriation.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: yes. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 17074.25 of the Education Code is
2 amended to read:
3 17074.25. (a) A modernization apportionment may be used
4 for an improvement to extend the useful life of, or to enhance the
5 physical environment of, the school. The improvement may only
6 include the cost of design, engineering, testing, inspection, plan
7 checking, construction management, demolition, construction, the
8 replacement of portable classrooms, necessary utility costs, utility
9 connection and other fees, the purchase and installation of
10 air-conditioning equipment and insulation materials and related
11 costs, furniture and equipment, including telecommunication
12 equipment to increase school security, fire safety improvements,
13 playground safety improvements, the identification, assessment,
14 or abatement of hazardous asbestos, seismic safety improvements,
15 and the upgrading of electrical systems or the wiring or cabling of
16 classrooms in order to accommodate educational technology. A
17 modernization grant may not be used for costs associated with
18 acquisition and development of real property or for routine
19 maintenance and repair.
20 (b) A modernization apportionment may also be used for the
21 cost of designs and materials that promote the efficient use of
22 energy and water, the maximum use of natural lighting and indoor
23 air quality, the use of recycled materials and materials that emit a

1 minimum of toxic substances, the use of acoustics conducive to
2 teaching and learning, and other characteristics of
3 high-performance schools.

4 SEC. 2. Section 17078.72 of the Education Code is amended
5 to read:

6 17078.72. (a) The Career Technical Education Facilities
7 Program is hereby established to provide funding to qualifying
8 ~~school districts~~ *local educational agencies* for the purpose of
9 constructing new facilities or reconfiguring existing facilities,
10 including, but not limited to, purchasing equipment with an average
11 useful life expectancy of at least 10 years, to enhance educational
12 opportunities for pupils in existing high schools in order to provide
13 them with the skills and knowledge necessary for the high-demand
14 technical careers of today and tomorrow.

15 (b) The State Department of Education, in cooperation with the
16 Chancellor's Office of the *California* Community Colleges, the
17 Labor and Workforce Development Agency, and industry groups,
18 shall develop criteria and pupil outcome measures to evaluate the
19 program. The criteria shall ensure equity, program relevance to
20 industry needs, and articulation with more advanced coursework
21 at the partnering community colleges or private institutions.

22 (c) The program shall be based on grant applications
23 administered by the board.

24 (d) Grants shall be allocated on a per-square-foot basis for the
25 applicable type of construction proposed or deemed necessary by
26 the board consistent with the approved application for the project.

27 (e) New construction grants shall not exceed three million
28 dollars (\$3,000,000) per project per schoolsite, inclusive of
29 equipment, and shall only be allocated to comprehensive high
30 schools that have an active Career Technical Advisory Committee
31 pursuant to Section 8070, in either of the following methods:

32 (1) For a stand-alone project on a per-square-foot basis for the
33 applicable type of construction proposed, based on the criteria
34 established pursuant to subdivision (b), consistent with the
35 approved application for the project.

36 (2) For new school projects, as a supplement to the per pupil
37 allocation pursuant to Section 17072.10. The supplement is
38 intended to cover excess costs uniquely related to the facilities
39 required to provide the career technical education program or
40 programs.

1 (f) Modernization grants shall not exceed one million five
2 hundred thousand dollars (\$1,500,000) per project per schoolsite,
3 inclusive of equipment and may be awarded to comprehensive
4 high schools or joint power authorities currently operating career
5 technical education programs that have an active Career Technical
6 Advisory Committee pursuant to Section 8070 for the purpose of
7 reconfiguration. For comprehensive high schools, the grant shall
8 be supplemental to the per pupil allocation pursuant to Section
9 17074.10. The supplement is intended to cover excess costs
10 uniquely related to the facilities required to provide the career
11 technical education program or programs.

12 (g) (1) A school district shall contribute from local resources
13 a dollar amount that is equal to the amount of the grant of state
14 funds awarded under subdivisions (d), (e), and (f). The required
15 local contribution may be provided by private industry groups, the
16 school district, or a joint powers authority.

17 (2) A school district shall not be required to demonstrate that it
18 has unhouseed pupils or that a permanent school building is more
19 than 25 years old in order to receive a grant under the program.

20 (h) The program shall allow the required local contribution to
21 be paid over time if sufficient local funds are not immediately
22 available. The board may provide for a repayment schedule
23 consistent with subparagraphs (C) and (D) of paragraph (1) of
24 subdivision (a) of Section 17078.57. The board shall not waive
25 the required local contribution on the basis of financial hardship
26 or on any other basis.

27 (i) Applications shall meet the criteria developed under
28 subdivision (b) and shall require all of the following:

29 (1) A clear and comprehensive ~~Career Technical Education~~
30 *career technical education* plan for each course of study applicable
31 to the instructional space.

32 (2) Projections of pupil enrollment.

33 (3) Identification of feeder schools, industry partners, and
34 community colleges or other postsecondary schools participating
35 in the development, articulation, and review of the educational
36 program.

37 (4) Evidence of approval of the plan by the entities listed in
38 paragraph (3).

39 (5) The method by which accountability for pupil enrollments
40 and outcomes will be maintained. Outcomes shall include, but are

1 not limited to, certificate completion, the successful entry of pupil
2 to employment in the applicable industry, and successful transition
3 to post-secondary institutions for work in the applicable industry
4 or other areas of study.

5 (6) Evidence of coordination with all feeder schools, middle
6 schools, and high schools within the area to ensure that the project
7 and programs complement career technical education offerings in
8 the area.

9 (7) Evidence that upon completion of the project the ~~school~~
10 *district local educational agency* will meet all of its obligations
11 under Section 51228 relating to career technical education.

12 (j) Applications shall give weight to the number of pupils
13 expected to attend, the cost per pupil, financial participation by
14 industry partners in the construction and equipping of the facility,
15 commitment to accountability for outcomes and participation, the
16 strength and relevance of the educational plans to the needs of
17 industry for qualified technical employees applicable to the
18 economic development needs of the region in which the project
19 will be located, and coordination and articulation with feeder
20 schools, other high schools, and community colleges.

21 (k) The Office of Public School Construction shall develop and
22 the board shall approve regulations to implement this article on or
23 before April 19, 2007, and the board may promulgate those
24 regulations first on an emergency basis, which shall be effective
25 for no more than 12 months, after which any permanent regulations
26 shall be promulgated in accordance with the Administrative
27 Procedure Act (Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of
28 Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code).

29 (l) Notwithstanding paragraphs (e) and (f), a project approved
30 pursuant to this section is also eligible for an incentive grant from
31 the funds specified in paragraph (8) of subdivision (a) of Section
32 101012 if the project meets the criteria prescribed in that section.