

House Bill 158

In The House

January 12, 1981

Introduced and referred  
to Committee on Education.

January 30, 1981

Committee recommend bill  
do not pass.

HOUSE BILL NO. 158

INTRODUCED BY *Bangston, Good, Meekham*

*Vincent, Helleberg, Carbuti*

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT THE BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION SHALL ORDER THE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION TO DISTRIBUTE THE STATE EQUALIZATION AID TO EACH SCHOOL DISTRICT IN FIVE INSTALLMENTS EACH SCHOOL YEAR; AMENDING SECTION 20-9-344, MCA."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Section 20-9-344, MCA, is amended to read:

"20-9-344. Purpose of state equalization aid and duties of the board of public education for distribution.

(1) Except as provided in 20-9-345, the moneys available for state equalization aid shall be distributed and apportioned to provide an annual minimum operating revenue for the elementary and high schools in each county, exclusive of revenues required for debt service and for the payment of any and all costs and expense incurred in connection with any adult education program, recreation program, school food services program, new buildings, new grounds, and transportation.

(2) The board of public education shall administer and distribute the state equalization aid in the manner and with the powers and duties provided by law. To this end, the

board of public education shall:

(a) adopt policies for regulating the distribution of state equalization aid in accordance with the provisions of law;

(b) have the power to require such reports from the county superintendents, budget boards, county treasurers, and trustees as it may deem necessary; and

(c) order the superintendent of public instruction to distribute the state equalization aid on the basis of each district's annual entitlement to such aid as established by the superintendent of public instruction. In ordering the distribution of state equalization aid, the board of public education shall not increase or decrease the state equalization aid distribution to any district on account of any difference which may occur during the school fiscal year between budgeted and actual receipts from any other source of school revenue. The order shall require the superintendent of public instruction to distribute the state equalization aid to each district in five installments each school year with one installment due on each of the following dates: August 31, October 1, January 30, February 28, and March 30.

(3) Should a district receive more state equalization aid than it is entitled to, the county treasurer must return the overpayment to the state upon the request of the

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1 superintendent of public instruction in the manner  
2 prescribed by the municipal division of the department of  
3 community affairs."

-End-