

## Senate Bill No. 1155

### CHAPTER 865

An act to add and repeal Section 42285.3 of the Education Code, relating to education.

[Approved by Governor October 10, 1997. Filed  
with Secretary of State October 10, 1997.]

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1155, Leslie. Education: Plumas Unified School District: necessary small schools: necessary small high schools.

Existing law defines a necessary small school as an elementary school with an average daily attendance of less than 101, exclusive of pupils attending grades 7 and 8 of a junior high school, maintained by a school district that maintains 2 or more schools, that comes within any of several specified criteria involving combinations of distance and average daily attendance. Existing law requires the county superintendent of schools to make specified computations for each elementary and secondary school district that has fewer than 2,501 units of second principal apportionment average daily attendance and maintains at least one school that meets the criteria for a necessary small school, as defined.

Existing law defines a necessary small high school as a high school with an average daily attendance of less than 301, or a junior high school with an average daily attendance of less than 75 in grade 9, excluding continuation schools, that comes within any of several specified criteria involving combinations of distance and average daily attendance. Existing law requires the county superintendent of schools to make specified computations for each school district with fewer than 2,501 units of average daily attendance with regard to necessary small high schools.

This bill would express legislative findings and declarations relating to the fiscal circumstances of the Plumas Unified School District. The bill would express the intent of the Legislature to provide a method through which the Plumas Unified School District, and any other similarly situated school district, would be eligible to receive apportionments pursuant to the schedules for a necessary small school and a necessary small high school set forth in existing law.

The bill would require that, notwithstanding any other provision of law, a unified school district that is the only school district in a county, that received specified amounts of federal Forest Reserve funds and that has fewer than 4,501 units of average daily attendance, be eligible to receive apportionments for necessary small schools and necessary small high schools, except as specified. The bill would state

that these provisions shall become inoperative on July 1, 1999, and as of January 1, 2000, would be repealed.

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

SECTION 1. (a) The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

(1) The Plumas Unified School District operates a total of 14 schools, of which five meet the strict geographical and size restrictions required for necessary small school funding under Article 4 (commencing with Section 42280) of Chapter 7 of Part 24 of the Education Code.

(2) Unfortunately, the Plumas Unified School District does not meet the requirement of 2,501 or fewer average daily attendance set forth in Article 4 (commencing with Section 42280) of Chapter 7 of Part 24 of the Education Code (the district had 3,684 ADA in the 1995–96 school year), and is thus ineligible for necessary small school funding.

(3) In previous years, Plumas Unified School District received considerable funding from federal Forest Reserve revenues and was able to use these funds to subsidize the operation of these five small schools. However, these federal Forest Reserve funds, which have dropped from a high of two million eight hundred thousand dollars (\$2,800,000) in 1992–93 to one million seven hundred thousand dollars (\$1,700,000) in 1995–96, are expected to decline further to approximately one million two hundred thousand dollars (\$1,200,000) in 1996–97, and to continue to descend thereafter.

(b) It is, therefore, the intent of the Legislature to provide a method through which the Plumas Unified School District, and any other similarly situated school districts, would be eligible to receive apportionments pursuant to the schedules for a “necessary small school” and a “necessary small high school,” as set forth in Article 4 (commencing with Section 42280) of Chapter 7 of Part 24 of the Education Code.

SEC. 2. Section 42285.3 is added to the Education Code, to read:

42285.3. (a) Notwithstanding subdivision (b) of Section 42280 or any other provision of law, a unified school district that is the only school district in a county, that has received more than two million seven hundred thousand dollars (\$2,700,000) in federal Forest Reserve funds in the 1992–93 school year and less than one million three hundred thousand dollars (\$1,300,000) in federal Forest Reserve funds in the 1996–97 school year, and that has fewer than 4,501 units of average daily attendance in the 1997–98 school year or in subsequent school years shall be eligible to receive apportionments pursuant to the schedules for a “necessary small school” and a “necessary small high school,” as set forth in this article, for up to the total number of schools in the district that would have



met the criteria for classification as a necessary small school or a necessary small high school in the 1996–97 fiscal year, if the district had fewer than 2,501 units of average daily attendance in the 1996–97 fiscal year, except that this section shall not apply in any school year in which an otherwise eligible school district receives more than two million dollars (\$2,000,000) in federal Forest Reserve funds.

(b) This section shall become inoperative on July 1, 1999, and as of January 1, 2000, is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that is enacted on or before January 1, 2000, deletes or extends the dates on which it becomes inoperative and is repealed.

