

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 2, 1999
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 15, 1999

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—1999–2000 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 537

Introduced by Assembly Member Aroner

February 18, 1999

An act to add Section 41857 to the Education Code, relating to school transportation, ~~and making an appropriation therefor.~~

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 537, as amended, Aroner. School transportation: appropriation.

Existing law establishes a formula for the apportionment by the Superintendent of Public Instruction of an amount from the State School Fund to fund home-to-school transportation.

This bill would establish an alternative formula for funding home-to-school transportation for a school district in which at least 50% of the pupils enrolled in the district qualified for free and reduced price lunches, district's home-to-school transportation entitlement was less than 15% of the district's home-to-school approved expenses, and the number of average daily boardings by pupils enrolled in the school district who use public transit as home-to-school transportation in the 1997–98 fiscal year exceeded 30% of the district's enrollment.

This bill would ~~continuously appropriate commencing with the 1999-2000 fiscal year, and each fiscal year thereafter, from Section A of the School Fund to the Superintendent of Public Instruction the amount necessary to fund the additional home-to-school transportation allowance~~ *make these provisions operative only in fiscal years in which funds are appropriated in the Budget Act for that fiscal year for the purposes of this bill. The bill would limit annual expenditure for these purposes to not more than \$500,000.* The funds appropriated by this bill would be applied toward the minimum funding requirement for school districts and community college districts imposed by Section 8 of Article XVI of the California Constitution.

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

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 41857 is added to the Education
 2 Code, to read:
 3 41857. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of
 4 law, for purposes of this article, commencing with the
 5 1999-2000 fiscal year and each fiscal year thereafter, the
 6 home-to-school transportation allowance received by a
 7 school district that is eligible pursuant to subdivision (b)
 8 established at an amount equal to the district prior year
 9 CBEDS enrollment times the statewide average per
 10 pupil allowance for home-to-school transportation, but in
 11 no event shall the home-to-school transportation
 12 allowance be in an amount greater than the approved
 13 costs of home-to-school transportation received by that
 14 district for that fiscal year.
 15 (b) A school district is eligible for a home-to-school
 16 transportation allowance pursuant to subdivision (a) if it
 17 meets all of the following conditions:
 18 (1) At least 50 percent of the pupils enrolled in the
 19 district qualified for free and reduced price lunches
 20 according to data from the 1997 CBEDS.
 21 (2) The district's home-to-school transportation
 22 entitlement was less than 15 percent of the district's



1 home-to-school approved expenses, as reported by
2 Exhibit 1-A of the State Department of Education's
3 1997-98 home-to-school transportation apportionment
4 exhibit.

5 (3) The number of average daily boardings by pupils
6 enrolled in the school district who use public transit as
7 home-to-school transportation in the 1997-98 fiscal year
8 exceeded 30 percent of the district's CBEDS enrollment.

9 ~~(e) Notwithstanding Section 13340 of the Government~~
10 ~~Code, commencing with the 1999-2000 fiscal year, and~~
11 ~~each fiscal year thereafter, the amount necessary to fund~~
12 ~~the additional home-to-school transportation allowance~~
13 ~~provided by this section is hereby appropriated from~~
14 ~~Section A of the School Fund to the Superintendent of~~
15 ~~Public Instruction to make allocations to school districts~~
16 ~~who qualify for funding under this section.~~

17 *(c) This section shall be operative only during those*
18 *fiscal years in which funds are appropriated in the Budget*
19 *Act for that fiscal year for the purposes of this section.*

20 *(d) Not more than five hundred thousand dollars*
21 *(\$500,000) may be expended annually pursuant to this*
22 *section.*

