

HOUSE BILL No. 2319

By Committee on Taxation

1 AN ACT creating the coalition of innovative districts act.

2
3 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

4 Section 1. The provisions of sections 1 through 9, and amendments
5 thereto, shall be known and may be cited as the coalition of innovative
6 districts act.

7 Sec. 2. As used in sections 1 through 9, and amendments thereto:

8 (a) "Board of education" means the locally elected board of education
9 of a school district.

10 (b) "Public innovative district" means a school district that has been
11 approved to operate as a public innovative district pursuant to section 3,
12 and amendments thereto.

13 (c) "Coalition" means the coalition of innovative districts established
14 pursuant to section 4, and amendments thereto.

15 (d) "Completion percentage" means the percentage of high school
16 graduates of a public innovative district that have enlisted in military
17 service or completed a postsecondary educational certificate program or
18 degree program as determined by the national student clearinghouse, or
19 other postsecondary educational program completion database utilized by
20 such public innovative district.

21 (e) "School district" means a unified school district organized and
22 operated under the laws of this state.

23 (f) "School year" means the 12-month period ending June 30.

24 (g) "State board" means the state board of education.

25 Sec. 3. (a) Except as provided in section 5, and amendments thereto,
26 the board of education of any school district may apply to the state board
27 of education for a grant of authority to operate such school district as a
28 public innovative district. The application shall be submitted in the form
29 and manner prescribed by the state board, and shall be submitted not later
30 than December 1 of the school year preceding the school year in which the
31 school district intends to operate as a public innovative district.

32 (b) The application shall include the following:

33 (1) A description of the educational programs of the public innovative
34 district;

35 (2) a description of the interest and support for partnerships between
36 the public innovative district, parents and the community;

1 (3) the specific goals and the measurable pupil outcomes to be
2 obtained by operating as a public innovative district; and
3 (4) an explanation of how pupil performance in achieving the
4 specified outcomes will be measured, evaluated and reported.

5 (c) (1) Within 90 days from the date such application is submitted, the
6 state board shall review the application to determine compliance with this
7 section, and shall approve or deny such application. If the application is
8 determined to be in compliance with this section, the state board shall
9 approve such application and grant the school district authority to operate
10 as a public innovative district. Notification of such approval shall be sent
11 to the board of education of such school district within 10 days after such
12 decision.

13 (2) If the state board determines such application is not in compliance
14 with either this section, or section 5, and amendments thereto, the state
15 board shall deny such application. Notification of such denial shall be sent
16 to the board of education of such school district within 10 days after such
17 decision and shall specify the reasons therefor. Within 30 days from the
18 date such notification is sent, the board of education of such school district
19 may submit a request to the state board for reconsideration of the
20 application and may submit an amended application with such request.
21 The state board shall act on the request for reconsideration within 60 days
22 of receipt of such request.

23 (d) A public innovative district shall:

24 (1) Not charge tuition for any of the pupils residing within the public
25 innovative district;

26 (2) participate in all Kansas math and reading assessments applicable
27 to such public innovative district, or an alternative assessment program for
28 measuring student progress as determined by the board of education;

29 (3) abide by all financial and auditing requirements that are
30 applicable to school districts, except that a public innovative district may
31 use generally accepted accounting principles;

32 (4) comply with all applicable health, safety and access laws; and

33 (5) comply with all statements set forth in the application submitted
34 pursuant to subsection (a).

35 (e) ~~(1) Except as otherwise provided in sections 1 through 9, and~~
36 ~~amendments thereto, or as required by the board of education of the public~~
37 ~~innovative district, a public innovative district shall be exempt from all~~
38 ~~laws and rules and regulations that are applicable to school districts.~~

39 (2) A public innovative district shall be subject to the special
40 education for exceptional children act, the virtual school act, the school
41 district finance and quality performance act, the provisions of K.S.A. 72-
42 8801 et seq., and amendments thereto, the provisions of K.S.A. 75-2315 et
43 seq., and amendments thereto, the provisions of K.S.A. 74-4901 et seq.,