

By: Watson

S.B. No. 1141

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the basic allotment and guaranteed yield under the public school finance system.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter E, Chapter 42, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 42.25191 to read as follows:

Sec. 42.25191. APPROPRIATION FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION. In each biennial General Appropriations Act, the legislature shall set the basic allotment under Section 42.101 and the dollar amount guaranteed level of state and local funds per weighted student per cent of tax effort ("GL") under Section 42.302 for each state fiscal year at:

(1) the amounts necessary for the amount of state funds to which all school districts are jointly entitled under this chapter, together with state funds to which all school districts are jointly entitled for that state fiscal year under any other law that provides funding for the general maintenance and operation of the system of public free schools, to comply with the minimum requirement of Section 1, Article VII, Texas Constitution; or

(2) amounts greater than the amounts specified by Subdivision (1).

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2020, but only if the constitutional amendment proposed by the 86th Legislature, Regular Session, 2019, requiring the state to pay at least 50

1 percent of the cost of maintaining and operating the public school
2 system and prohibiting the comptroller from certifying legislation
3 containing an appropriation for public education unless the
4 requirement is met, is approved by the voters. If that amendment is
5 not approved by the voters, this Act has no effect.