By:  Zwiener H.B. No. 95

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to requiring the legislature to set the basic allotment and guaranteed yield under the public school finance system at certain amounts in the General Appropriations Act.

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

SECTION 1.  Subchapter F, Chapter 48, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 48.2511 to read as follows:

Sec. 48.2511.  APPROPRIATION FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION. (a) In each biennial General Appropriations Act, the legislature shall set the basic allotment under Section 48.051 and the dollar amount guaranteed level of state and local funds per weighted student per cent of tax effort ("GL") under Section 48.202 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 constitute, as determined by the legislature, at least 50 percent of the cost of maintaining and operating that system; or

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

(b)  For purposes of calculating the amount of state funds required under Subsection (a), the legislature may not consider money that is attributable to an ad valorem tax imposed by a school district on property located in the school district, including any revenue the school district is required to transfer to the state to reduce the school district's local revenue level in accordance with Chapter 49.

SECTION 2.  This Act takes effect December 1, 2023.