HB0236S2006

(TO ENGROSSED COPY)

Page 1-line 11 After "funding;" insert "making legislative findings;".

Page 40-before line 23 Insert and renumber:

"Section 10.

(a) The legislature makes the following findings regarding the need for a comprehensive reexamination of education finance in Wyoming:

(i) For more than a decade, Wyoming has invested heavily in education finance. It has done so with the promise and expectation that student performance would increase commensurately with the increase in funding. As noted in the 2015 Desk Audit of the Wyoming school funding model which was adopted in the Recalibration Report provided by the select committee on school finance recalibration, that has not been the case;

(ii) "In the ten years from 2004 to 2014, operating revenues per pupil grew from \$10,629 to \$17,272, an increase of \$6,643 or 62%, substantially greater than inflation." 2015 Desk Audit, page 2. "Unfortunately, student achievement has not risen at the same or even similar rate." 2015 Desk Audit, page 4. "[F]unding has grown at a substantially higher rate than has student performance, and in no case do at least 50% of Wyoming students achieve at proficient or advanced levels, performance levels that are critical for student opportunity in the knowledge-based global economy." 2015 Desk Audit, page 11;

(iii) "Although a direct linkage between funding and student performance does not exist, the Wyoming School Funding Model is designed to allocate adequate resources to provide all students with robust opportunities to meet college and career ready standards." 2015 Desk Audit, page 4;

(iv) It remains the goal of education finance in Wyoming to provide those robust opportunities, but funding alone will not achieve that goal. A comprehensive reexamination of education finance is necessary to determine how best to provide those robust opportunities while remaining fiscally responsible. In the current environment of reduced revenues, it is critical to seek out and eliminate inefficiencies in the finance system

while also continuing to explore how best to deliver a modern, high quality education opportunity to every Wyoming school child;

(v) This bill begins the analysis necessary for a comprehensive reexamination of education finance in Wyoming. The findings of the 2015 select committee on school finance recalibration are modified accordingly.". WASSERBURGER