

A BILL

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To amend, on an emergency basis, the Uniform Per Student Funding Formula for Public Schools and Public Charter Schools Act of 1998 to modify guidelines for spending at-risk funds within the District of Columbia Public Schools; and to establish as a nonlapsing fund for at-risk funding allocations made to DCPS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this act may be cited as the “At-Risk Funding Preservation Emergency Amendment Act of 2015”.

Sec. 2. Section 108a of the Uniform Per Student Funding Formula for Public Schools and Public Charter schools Act of 1998, effective March 26, 1999 (D.C. Law 12-207; D.C. Official Code § 38-2901 et seq.) is amended as follows:

(a) Subsection (b)(1) is amended to read:

“(b)(1) Funds provided to schools pursuant to subsection (a)(3) of this section shall be available for school utilization at the direction of the Chancellor in consultation with the principal and local school advisory team. The Chancellor shall make publicly available an annual report that explains the allocation of funds sorted by individual schools.”

(b) Strike subsection (b)(2).

Sec. 3. (a) There is established as a nonlapsing fund the At-Risk Weight Preservation

29 Fund ("Fund"), which shall be used for the purposes set forth in subsection (b) of this section.
30 All funds deposited in the Fund, and any interest earned on those funds, shall not revert to the
31 unrestricted fund balance of the General Fund of the District of Columbia at the end of a fiscal
32 year, or at any other time, but shall be continually available for the uses and purposes set forth in
33 subsection (b) of this section without regard to fiscal year limitation, subject to authorization by
34 Congress.

35 (b) The Fund shall be used solely to fund the at-risk add on weight of the Uniform Per
36 Student Funding Formula specifically designed to assist students in foster care, who are
37 homeless, on TANF or SNAP, or behind grade level.

38 (c)(1) The Fund shall be administered by the District of Columbia Public Schools.

39 (2) Working in conjunction with the Office of the Chief Financial Officer, the
40 Chancellor shall establish sub-funds within the Fund to be assigned to each individual local
41 school. Each sub-fund shall be administered by the local school principal in coordination with
42 the Chancellor or his/her designee.

43 (d)(1) There shall be deposited into the Fund all local funding payments to the District of
44 Columbia Public Schools associated with the at-risk weight of the Uniform Per Student Funding
45 Formula.

46 (2) The sub-funds shall contain each local school's share of the overall at-risk
47 weight distribution as established as part of the annual budget process.

48 Sec. 4. Fiscal impact statement.

49 The Council adopts the fiscal impact statement of the Chief Financial Officer as the fiscal
50 impact statement required by section 602(c)(3) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act,
51 approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code §1-206.02(c)(3)).

52 Sec. 5. Effective date.

53 (a) This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by
54 the Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), a 30-day period of Congressional review
55 as provided in section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December
56 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(1)), and publication in the District of
57 Columbia Register.

58 (b) This act shall expire after 225 days of its having taken effect.