

HJR215 ENROLLED



1 HJR215
2 KCRF555-2
3 By Representatives Garrett, Lovvorn, Stubbs, Wood (D), Colvin,
4 Almond, Drummond, Lawrence
5 RFD: RULES
6 First Read: 23-Apr-24



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1 Enrolled, An Act,

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3 REQUIRING THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA TO CONDUCT A STUDY ON
4 MODERNIZING K-12 EDUCATION SCHOOL FUNDING.

5 WHEREAS, the Foundation Program for funding K-12
6 education in Alabama is a resource-based system that was
7 adopted in 1995 and began operation in the 1995-1996 school
8 year; and

9 WHEREAS, the Foundation Program is funded from state
10 and local tax dollars with the local share coming from local
11 property taxes of 10-mills that each system must levy to
12 participate in the program while the state costs come from
13 the Education Trust Fund; and

14 WHEREAS, the Foundation Program provides funding to
15 school districts based on the anticipated costs of resources
16 and inputs, such as salaries, basic financial support for
17 classrooms, and operations money, but provides minimal
18 additional state funding for students with disabilities or
19 to address other individual needs of students; and

20 WHEREAS, the Foundation Program is complex,
21 containing few techniques for lawmakers to employ to address
22 the changing needs of students and school districts and no
23 clear way to link state funding priorities to local spending
24 decisions and the outcomes of various student groups; and

25 WHEREAS, local school systems face a myriad of
26 challenges in meeting the unique educational needs of the
27 students they serve; there is a need for greater flexibility
28 to provide the educational services required of teachers,



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29 administration, and school systems in general; and

30 WHEREAS, Alabama is one of only six states that only
31 uses a resource-based funding formula for K-12 education,
32 while 41 states use a student-based funding formula where
33 school districts receive funding based on the number of
34 students enrolled or in attendance with additional funding
35 being provided based on characteristics of the students of
36 the district, such as low-income, poverty, disability, and
37 status as an English language learner, or a gifted student;
38 and

39 WHEREAS, many outside studies have concluded that
40 states should shift K-12 education school funding away from
41 a resource-based system and into a modern, weighted,
42 student-based funding model that would reflect the true cost
43 of educating various student groups and moving all students
44 toward proficiency; now therefore,

45 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
46 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the Legislature of Alabama
47 shall conduct a study on modernizing the current K-12 school
48 funding model into a student-based funding model, including
49 any additional costs associated with the transition, as well
50 as any necessary changes in law that may be required to
51 implement a new statutory framework that supports meaningful
52 education to Alabama's K-12 students.

53 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Legislature shall
54 deliver the findings of its study and any proposed
55 legislation to the Governor, the Speaker of the House of



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56 Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate
57 by February 1, 2025.

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Speaker of the House of Representatives

President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

House of Representatives

I hereby certify that the within Act originated in
and was passed by the House 23-Apr-24.

John Treadwell
Clerk

Senate

25-Apr-24

Adopted