SENATE BILL No. 235

By Committee on Assessment and Taxation

AN ACT concerning education; relating to the statewide levy; homestead exemption; capital improvement state aid demand transfer; amending K.S.A. 72-5142 and 72-5462 and K.S.A. 2018 Supp. 79-201x and repealing the existing sections.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. K.S.A. 72-5142 is hereby amended to read as follows: 72-5142. (a) The board of education of each school district shall levy an ad valorem tax upon the taxable tangible property of the school district in the school years specified in subsection (b) for the purpose of:

(1) Financing that portion of the school district's general fund budget that is not financed from any other source provided by law;

(2) paying a portion of the costs of operating and maintaining public schools in partial fulfillment of the constitutional obligation of the legislature to finance the educational interests of the state; and

(3) with respect to any redevelopment school district established prior to July 1, 1997, pursuant to K.S.A. 12-1771, and amendments thereto, paying a portion of the principal and interest on bonds issued by cities under authority of K.S.A. 12-1774, and amendments thereto, for the financing of redevelopment projects upon property located within the school district.

(b) The tax required under subsection (a) shall be levied at a rate of 20 mills in the school years 2017-2018, 2019-2020, 2020-2021.

(c) The proceeds from the tax levied by a district under authority of this section, except the proceeds of such tax levied for the purpose described in subsection (a)(3), shall be remitted to the state treasurer in accordance with the provisions of K.S.A. 75-4215, and amendments thereto. Upon receipt of each such remittance, the state treasurer shall deposit the entire amount in the state treasury to the credit of the state school district finance fund.

(d) No school district shall proceed under K.S.A. 79-1964, 79-1964a or 79-1964b, and amendments thereto.

Sec. 2. K.S.A. 72-5462 is hereby amended to read as follows: 72-5462. (a) There is hereby established in the state treasury the school district capital improvements fund. The fund shall consist of all amounts
transferred thereto under the provisions of subsection (c).

(b) In each school year, each school district which is obligated to make payments from its capital improvements fund shall be entitled to receive payment from the school district capital improvements fund in an amount determined by the state board of education as provided in this subsection.

(1) For general obligation bonds approved for issuance at an election held prior to July 1, 2015, the state board of education shall:

(A) Determine the amount of the assessed valuation per pupil (AVPP) of each school district in the state for the preceding school year and round such amount to the nearest $1,000. The rounded amount is the AVPP of a school district for the purposes of this subsection (b)(1);

(B) determine the median AVPP of all school districts;

(C) prepare a schedule of dollar amounts using the amount of the median AVPP of all school districts as the point of beginning. The schedule of dollar amounts shall range upward in equal $1,000 intervals from the point of beginning to and including an amount that is equal to the amount of the AVPP of the school district with the highest AVPP of all school districts and shall range downward in equal $1,000 intervals from the point of beginning to and including an amount that is equal to the amount of the AVPP of the school district with the lowest AVPP of all school districts;

(D) determine a state aid percentage factor for each school district by assigning a state aid computation percentage to the amount of the median AVPP shown on the schedule, decreasing the state aid computation percentage assigned to the amount of the median AVPP by one percentage point for each $1,000 interval above the amount of the median AVPP, and increasing the state aid computation percentage assigned to the amount of the median AVPP by one percentage point for each $1,000 interval below the amount of the median AVPP. Except as provided by K.S.A. 72-5463, and amendments thereto, the state aid percentage factor of a school district is the percentage assigned to the schedule amount that is equal to the amount of the AVPP of the school district. The state aid percentage factor of a school district shall not exceed 100%. The state aid computation percentage is 25%;

(E) determine the amount of payments that a school district is obligated to make from its bond and interest fund attributable to general obligation bonds approved for issuance at an election held prior to July 1, 2015; and

(F) multiply the amount determined under subsection (b)(1)(E) by the applicable state aid percentage factor.

(2) For general obligation bonds approved for issuance at an election held on or after July 1, 2015, the state board of education shall:
(A) Determine the amount of the AVPP of each school district in the state for the preceding school year and round such amount to the nearest $1,000. The rounded amount is the AVPP of a school district for the purposes of this subsection (b)(2);

(B) prepare a schedule of dollar amounts using the amount of the AVPP of the school district with the lowest AVPP of all school districts as the point of beginning. The schedule of dollar amounts shall range upward in equal $1,000 intervals from the point of beginning to and including an amount that is equal to the amount of the AVPP of the school district with the highest AVPP of all school districts;

(C) determine a state aid percentage factor for each school district by assigning a state aid computation percentage to the amount of the lowest AVPP shown on the schedule and decreasing the state aid computation percentage assigned to the amount of the lowest AVPP by one percentage point for each $1,000 interval above the amount of the lowest AVPP. Except as provided by K.S.A. 72-5463, and amendments thereto, the state aid percentage factor of a school district is the percentage assigned to the schedule amount that is equal to the amount of the AVPP of the school district. The state aid computation percentage is 75%;

(D) determine the amount of payments that a school district is obligated to make from its bond and interest fund attributable to general obligation bonds approved for issuance at an election held on or after July 1, 2015; and

(E) multiply the amount determined under subsection (b)(2)(D) by the applicable state aid percentage factor.

(3) For general obligation bonds approved for issuance at an election held on or before June 30, 2016, the sum of the amount determined under subsection (b)(1)(F) and the amount determined under subsection (b)(2)(E) is the amount of payment the school district is entitled to receive from the school district capital improvements fund in the school year.

(4) For general obligation bonds approved for issuance at an election held on or after July 1, 2016, the amount determined under subsection (b) (2)(E) is the amount of payment the school district shall receive from the school district capital improvements fund in the school year, except the total amount of payments school districts receive from the school district capital improvements fund in the school year for such bonds shall not exceed the six-year average amount of capital improvement state aid as determined by the state board of education.

(A) The state board of education shall determine the six-year average amount of capital improvement state aid by calculating the average of the total amount of moneys expended per year from the school district capital improvements fund in the immediately preceding six fiscal years, not to include the current fiscal year.
(B) (i) Subject to clause (ii), the state board of education shall prioritize the allocations to school districts from the school district capital improvements fund in accordance with the priorities set forth as follows in order of highest priority to lowest priority:

(a) Safety of the current facility and disability access to such facility as demonstrated by a state fire marshal report, an inspection under the Americans with disabilities act, 42 U.S.C. § 12101 et seq., or other similar evaluation;

(b) enrollment growth and imminent overcrowding as demonstrated by successive increases in enrollment of the school district in the immediately preceding three school years;

(c) impact on the delivery of educational services as demonstrated by restrictive inflexible design or limitations on installation of technology; and

(d) energy usage and other operational inefficiencies as demonstrated by a district-wide energy usage analysis, district-wide architectural analysis or other similar evaluation.

(ii) In allocating capital improvement state aid, the state board shall give higher priority to those school districts with a lower AVPP compared to the other school districts that are to receive capital improvement state aid under this section.

(C) On and after July 1, 2016, the state board of education shall approve the amount of state aid payments a school district shall receive from the school district capital improvements fund pursuant to subsection (b)(5) prior to an election to approve the issuance of general obligation bonds.

(5) Except as provided in subsections (b)(6) and (b)(7), the sum of the amounts determined under subsection (b)(3) and the amount determined or allocated to the district by the state board of education pursuant to subsection (b)(4), is the amount of payment the school district is entitled to receive from the school district capital improvements fund in the school year.

(6) A school district that had an enrollment of less than 260 students in the school year immediately preceding the school year in which an election is held to approve the issuance of general obligation bonds shall not be entitled to receive payments from the school district capital improvements fund unless such school district applied for and received approval from the state board of education to issue such bonds prior to holding an election to approve such bond issuance. The provisions of this paragraph shall apply to general obligation bonds approved for issuance at an election held on or after July 1, 2017, that are issued for the purpose of financing the construction of new school facilities.

(7) For general obligation bonds approved for issuance at an election
held on or after July 1, 2017, in determining the amount under subsection (b)(2)(D), the state board shall exclude payments for any capital improvement project, or portion thereof, that proposes to construct, reconstruct or remodel a facility that would be used primarily for extracurricular activities, unless the construction, reconstruction or remodeling of such facility is necessary due to concerns relating to the safety of the current facility or disability access to such facility as demonstrated by a state fire marshal report, an inspection under the Americans with disabilities act, 42 U.S.C. § 12101 et seq., or other similar evaluation.

(c) The state board of education shall certify to the director of accounts and reports the entitlements of school districts determined under the provisions of subsection (b), and an amount equal thereto shall be transferred by the director from the state general fund to the school district capital improvements fund for distribution to school districts. All transfers made in accordance with the provisions of this subsection shall be considered to be demand transfers from the state general fund, except that all such transfers during the fiscal years ending June 30, 2017, June 30, 2018, and June 30, 2019, shall be considered to be revenue transfers from the state general fund.

(d) Payments from the school district capital improvements fund shall be distributed to school districts at times determined by the state board of education to be necessary to assist school districts in making scheduled payments pursuant to contractual bond obligations. The state board of education shall certify to the director of accounts and reports the amount due each school district entitled to payment from the fund, and the director of accounts and reports shall draw a warrant on the state treasurer payable to the treasurer of the school district. Upon receipt of the warrant, the treasurer of the school district shall credit the amount thereof to the bond and interest fund of the school district to be used for the purposes of such fund.

(e) The provisions of this section apply only to contractual obligations incurred by school districts pursuant to general obligation bonds issued upon approval of a majority of the qualified electors of the school district voting at an election upon the question of the issuance of such bonds.

(f) On or before the first day of the legislative session in 2017, and each year thereafter, the state board of education shall prepare and submit a report to the legislature that includes information on school district elections held on or after July 1, 2016, to approve the issuance of general obligation bonds and the amount of payments school districts were approved to receive from the school district capital improvements fund pursuant to subsection (b)(4)(C).
Sec. 3. K.S.A. 2018 Supp. 79-201x is hereby amended to read as follows: 79-201x. For taxable years 2017, 2019, and 2020, the following described property, to the extent herein specified, shall be and is hereby exempt from the property tax levied pursuant to the provisions of K.S.A. 72-5142, and amendments thereto: Property used for residential purposes to the extent of $20,000 of its appraised valuation.

Sec. 4. K.S.A. 72-5142 and 72-5462 and K.S.A. 2018 Supp. 79-201x are hereby repealed.

Sec. 5. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.