AN ACT

ENTITLED, An Act to direct the Department of Education to undertake a study of school funding.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

Section 1. The Department of Education is hereby directed to undertake a study of the allocation of state funds to the various public school districts.

Section 2. The study shall include, but is not limited to consideration of the following factors:

(1) The allocation of funds to sparse school districts;

(2) The redistribution of funds currently allocated through what is commonly called the small school factor;

(3) The role of distance or remote education in the delivery of education services;

(4) The appropriate minimum size of a secondary school;

(5) The method by which to distribute money to account for the decline or increase in the number of elementary and secondary students in the state's public schools;

(6) The possible inclusion of other revenues into the state aid formula; and

(7) Transportation services and costs.

Section 3. The study may include participation by members of the public as may be directed by the Governor. The study shall include at least seven current members of the Legislature representing a cross-section of school districts. The members shall be appointed by the Executive Board of the Legislative Research Council and shall include at least one member from each party from both the Senate and the House of Representatives.

Section 4. The Department of Education shall provide an interim report to the Legislature no later than December 1, 2005. The interim report shall include preliminary findings regarding sparse schools, and a final report shall follow no later than December 1, 2006.

An Act to direct the Department of Education to undertake a study of school funding.

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I certify that the attached Act originated in the

SENATE as Bill No. 157

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Secretary of the Senate

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President of the Senate

Attest:

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Secretary of the Senate

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Speaker of the House

Attest:

_____
Chief Clerk

Senate Bill No. 157
File No. ____
Chapter No. _____

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Received at this Executive Office this _____ day of _____ ,

20____ at _____ M.

By _____
for the Governor

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The attached Act is hereby approved this _____ day of _____ , A.D., 20___

_____
Governor

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STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA,
ss.
Office of the Secretary of State

Filed _____ , 20___
at _____ o'clock __ M.

_____
Secretary of State

By _____
Asst. Secretary of State