94TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2005 and 2006

SB2882

Introduced 1/20/2006, by Sen. Terry Link

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/2-3.136

Amends the School Code. Creates a pilot class size reduction grant program, to be implemented and administered by the State Board of Education. Provides that grants shall be awarded to schools to defray the costs and expenses of operating and maintaining classes of no more than 15 pupils per teacher per class. Effective July 1, 2006.

LRB094 19085 NHT 54594 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT MAY APPLY SB2882

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AN ACT concerning education.

2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, 3 represented in the General Assembly:

Section 5. The School Code is amended by changing Section
2-3.136 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/2-3.136)

Sec. 2-3.136. <u>Class K 3 class</u> size reduction grant <u>programs</u>
8 program.

9 <u>(a)</u> A <u>K-3</u> class size reduction grant program is created. 10 The program shall be implemented and administered by the State 11 Board of Education. From appropriations made for purposes of 12 this Section, the State Board shall award grants to schools 13 that meet the criteria established by this <u>subsection (a)</u> 14 Section for the award of those grants.

15 Grants shall be awarded pursuant to application. The form and manner of applications and the criteria for the award of 16 17 grants shall be prescribed by the State Board of Education. The 18 grant criteria as so prescribed, however, shall provide that 19 only those schools that are on the State Board of Education Early Academic Warning List or the academic watch list under 20 Section 2-3.25d that maintain grades kindergarten through 3 are 21 22 grant eligible.

23 Grants awarded to eligible schools under this subsection (a) Section shall be used and applied by the schools to defray 24 25 the costs and expenses of operating and maintaining classes in 26 grades kindergarten through 3 with an average class size within a specific grade of no more than 20 pupils. If a school's 27 28 facilities are inadequate to allow for this specified class 29 size, then a school may use the grant funds for teacher aides 30 instead.

31 (b) A pilot class size reduction grant program is created.
 32 The program shall be implemented and administered by the State

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Board of Education. From appropriations made for purposes of this subsection (b), the State Board shall award grants to schools that meet the criteria established by this Section for the award of those grants.

5 Grants shall be awarded pursuant to application. The form 6 and manner of application and the criteria for the award of 7 grants shall be prescribed by the State Board of Education.

8 <u>Grants awarded to eliqible schools under this subsection</u> 9 <u>(b) shall be used and applied by the schools to defray the</u> 10 <u>costs and expenses of operating and maintaining classes of no</u> 11 <u>more than 15 pupils per teacher per class. A teacher aide may</u> 12 <u>not be used to meet this requirement.</u>

13 (c) If a school board determines that a school is using 14 funds awarded under this Section for purposes not authorized by 15 this Section, then the school board, rather than the school, 16 shall determine how the funds are used.

17 <u>(d)</u> The State Board of Education shall adopt any rules, 18 consistent with the requirements of this Section, that are 19 necessary to implement and administer the K-3 class size 20 reduction grant <u>programs</u> program.

21 (Source: P.A. 93-814, eff. 7-27-04; 94-566, eff. 1-1-06.)

Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect July 1,23 2006.