

1 If there are not at least 100 elementary schools in the state
2 which are rated as "F" schools, the commissioner may also
3 choose to include in the 100 lowest-performing elementary
4 schools some that are defined as "making less than
5 satisfactory progress" or "D" schools.

6 (2) By the beginning of the 2008-2009 school year,
7 there must be constructed at each of the 100 lowest-performing
8 elementary schools a primary learning center that is a
9 stand-alone wing housing classrooms that are only for students
10 in kindergarten through grade 3. Each center must be equipped
11 with at least one restroom, and each classroom in the wing
12 must be able to accommodate a teacher and a maximum of 15
13 students.

14 (3) By the beginning of the 2008-2009 school year,
15 there shall be provided to each of the 100 lowest-performing
16 elementary schools sufficient incentive operational funding to
17 hire and train teachers who are specialists in reading skills,
18 in the ratio of one such additional teacher for every 15
19 students in kindergarten through grade 3.

20 (4) At least through the 2011-2012 school year, the
21 Legislature shall provide incentive operational funding to
22 allow each of the 100 lowest-performing elementary schools to
23 maintain the maximum classroom ratio of 15 students to one
24 full-time equivalent teacher in kindergarten through grade 3
25 and to retain the reading teachers required under subsection
26 (3). A school that is otherwise eligible for incentive funding
27 under this subsection but that has more than 15 students per
28 teacher in any classroom for students in kindergarten through
29 grade 3 is ineligible to receive the incentive funding.

30 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.
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SENATE SUMMARY

Provides a maximum student-teacher ratio for classrooms in grades K through 3 of schools designated as the 100 lowest-performing elementary schools. Requires the construction of primary learning centers at such schools by a specified deadline. Provides criteria for such centers. Requires the hiring of teachers of reading skills at such schools by a specified deadline. Provides for continuing operational funding for each such center and school that meets eligibility requirements.