SB267 ENGROSSED



- 1 4Z2P3R-2
- 2 By Senator Chesteen
- 3 RFD: Finance and Taxation Education
- 4 First Read: 27-Apr-23

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6 2023 Regular Session



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5	A BILL
6	TO BE ENTITLED
7	AN ACT
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9	Relating to athletic trainers; to create the Athletic
10	Trainer Secondary School Incentive Program; to provide grants
11	to local boards of education that meet certain requirements
12	related to the use of athletic trainers in rural, 1A, 2A, 3A,
13	and Title I secondary schools; to authorize the Alabama Board
14	of Athletic Trainers to adopt rules to administer the
15	incentive program and the grant application process; to
16	require grants issued from the incentive program to be
17	provided as stipends to qualifying athletic trainers; and to
18	limit each secondary school and athletic trainer to one grant
19	per school year.
20	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:
21	Section 1. For the purposes of this act, the following
22	terms have the following meanings:
23	(1) ATHLETIC TRAINER. The same meaning as the term
24	"athletic training practice," as defined by Section 34-40-2,
25	Code of Alabama 1975. This term includes after school sporting
26	event coverage.
27	(2) ATHLETIC TRAINING SERVICES. Services provided by an
28	athletic trainer within the scope of athletic training



- 29 practice, as defined by Section 34-40-2, Code of Alabama 1975.
- 30 This term includes coverage provided to an after school
- 31 sporting event.
- 32 (3) BOARD. The Alabama Board of Athletic Trainers, as
- provided in Chapter 40 of Title 34 of the Code of Alabama
- 34 1975.
- 35 (4) INCENTIVE PROGRAM. The Athletic Trainer Secondary
- 36 School Incentive Program established by this act.
- 37 (5) RURAL SCHOOL. A school not located within a United
- 38 States Census Bureau Alabama Urbanized Area of 50,000 or more
- 39 individuals.
- 40 (6) SECONDARY SCHOOL. Any rural, 1A, 2A, 3A, or Title I
- 41 schools providing education to students in sixth through
- 42 twelfth grade. This term includes middle schools and high
- 43 schools.
- 44 Section 2. (a) There is established the Athletic
- 45 Trainer Secondary School Incentive Program. The program shall
- 46 be administered by the board.
- 47 (b) The board shall award funds to local boards of
- 48 education to incentivize the recruitment and retention of
- 49 athletic trainers at rural secondary schools and Title I
- 50 secondary schools in the state. The board shall allocate grant
- awards to the applicable local board of education for each
- 52 successful application that meets the requirements of this
- 53 act. Each grant shall be no more than seven thousand five
- hundred dollars (\$7,500), as determined by the board based on
- 55 the application.
- (c) The incentive program shall be capped at two



57 million dollars (\$2,000,000) per school year.

- (d) Grants may be awarded annually beginning with the 2024-2025 school year, and each school year thereafter.
 - (e) The grants provided by this act shall be contingent on the availability of funds. The Legislature may appropriate funds to the board for the incentive program, and the board may accept funds from nongovernmental entities to be used for the incentive program. Any monies appropriated shall be budgeted and allotted pursuant to the Budget Management Act in accordance with Article 4, commencing with Section 41-4-80 of Chapter 4 of Title 41, Code of Alabama 1975, and only in the amounts provided by the Legislature in the general appropriations act or other appropriations act. Funds not expended in any fiscal year shall not revert but shall remain with the board for use in implementing the incentive program.

Section 3. (a) A local board of education may apply for a grant from the incentive program if, during the academic school year, an athletic trainer provided an average of at least 25 hours of athletic training services per week to a rural secondary school or Title I secondary school under the purview of the local board of education. Any athletic training services provided by an athletic trainer may be counted towards the required hours, provided that the athletic trainer provides the athletic training services in one of the following manners:

- (1) As an employee of the local board of education.
- 83 (2) As an employee of a health care facility.
- 84 (3) As a participant in a third-party sports medicine



- 85 program.
- (b) (1) The board shall compile a list of schools
- 87 eligible for grants from the incentive program and publish the
- list on its website. The list shall be compiled in the
- 89 following manner:
- a. For rural secondary schools, by considering census
- 91 data to determine which secondary schools are not located in
- 92 urbanized areas of 50,000 or more individuals.
- b. For Title I secondary schools, by considering
- 94 federal law.
- 95 (2) Local boards of education meeting the application
- 96 criteria may apply for the incentive program following the end
- 97 of the academic school year, during a time period to be
- 98 determined by the board.
- 99 Section 4. (a) The board shall develop an application
- 100 form and adopt procedures for the administration of the
- 101 incentive program application, including for the development
- 102 of application criteria and a timeline for application review
- 103 and grant disbursement.
- 104 (b) (1) The local superintendent of education shall
- provide an attestation that all requirements for the incentive
- 106 program have been satisfied, and each athletic trainer seeking
- 107 to benefit from the incentive program shall provide an
- 108 attestation that he or she has provided at least 25 hours of
- 109 athletic training services to a rural secondary school or
- 110 Title I secondary school under the local board of education's
- 111 purview.
- 112 (2) The board may take disciplinary action against an

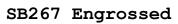


- athletic trainer who falsifies the amount of athletic training services he or she provided.
- Section 5. (a) Upon the receipt of a grant from the incentive program, the local board of education shall distribute the grant funds as a stipend to the qualifying
- 119 (1) If mul

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athletic trainer.

- 119 (1) If multiple athletic trainers provided an average
 120 of at least 25 hours of athletic training services per week to
 121 a secondary school during the academic school year, the local
 122 board of education shall evenly divide the funds from the
 123 incentive program among the athletic trainers.
- 124 (2) An athletic trainer may only receive one stipend
 125 from the incentive program per school year. Once an athletic
 126 trainer is awarded a stipend pursuant to this act, he or she
 127 shall not be eligible for another incentive program stipend
 128 until the next school year, even if he or she provided
 129 athletic training services to multiple schools.
- (b) The local board of education is limited to one successful grant application per secondary school each school year.
- Section 6. This act shall become effective on the first day of the third month following its passage and approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.





136 137 138	Senate
139 140 141 142	Read for the first time and referred
143 144 145 146	Read for the second time and placed03-May-23 on the calendar: 1 amendment
147 148 149 150 151 152	Read for the third time and passed04-May-23 as amended Yeas 34 Nays 0 Abstains 0
153 154 155 156	Patrick Harris, Secretary.