

1 HB427  
2 156858-2  
3 By Representative Coleman-Evans  
4 RFD: Education Policy  
5 First Read: 07-APR-15

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8 SYNOPSIS: Existing law does not limit the number of  
9 students per teacher in kindergarten to twelfth  
10 grade classrooms.

11 This bill would require that, beginning with  
12 the 2019-2020 school year, class size limits be  
13 maintained at 15 students per teacher for grades  
14 kindergarten to third, inclusive, at 22 students  
15 per teacher for grades four to eight, inclusive,  
16 and at 25 students per teacher for grades nine to  
17 12, inclusive. Such limits would be implemented on  
18 a graduated basis beginning with the 2015-2016  
19 fiscal year.

20 This bill would also provide that any costs  
21 associated with satisfying the class size  
22 limitations imposed by this bill would be the  
23 responsibility of the state and not the local  
24 school systems.

25  
26 A BILL  
27 TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

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3 Relating to public education; to establish class  
4 size limits in grades kindergarten to 12, inclusive, beginning  
5 with the 2019-2020 school year, to be phased in beginning with  
6 the 2015-2016 fiscal year; and to provide that any costs  
7 associated with satisfying the limits be the responsibility of  
8 the state.

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

10 Section 1. (a) To assure that children attending  
11 public schools obtain a high quality education, the  
12 Legislature shall make adequate provision to ensure that, by  
13 the beginning of the 2019-2020 school year, there are a  
14 sufficient number of classrooms so that:

15 (1) The maximum number of students who are assigned  
16 to each teacher who is teaching in public school classrooms  
17 for prekindergarten to grade 3, inclusive, does not exceed 15  
18 students.

19 (2) The maximum number of students who are assigned  
20 to each teacher who is teaching in public school classrooms  
21 for grades 4 to 8, inclusive, does not exceed 22 students.

22 (3) The maximum number of students who are assigned  
23 to each teacher who is teaching in public school classrooms  
24 for grades 9 to 12, inclusive, does not exceed 25 students.

25 (b) The class size requirements of this section do  
26 not apply to extracurricular classes.

1                   (c) Payment of the costs associated with reducing  
2                   class size to meet the requirements of this section is the  
3                   responsibility of the state and not of local school systems.  
4                   Beginning with the 2015-2016 fiscal year, the Legislature  
5                   shall provide sufficient funds to reduce the average number of  
6                   students in each classroom by at least two students per year  
7                   until the maximum number of students per classroom does not  
8                   exceed the requirements of this section.

9                   Section 2. This act shall become effective  
10                  immediately following its passage and approval by the  
11                  Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.