



NEWS

From the Illinois Senate

State Senator Dave Koehler

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Further information:
John Michael Combs 217/782-1983

Koehler votes to increase funding for special education across state

46th Legislative District slated to receive increase of over \$1 million

SPRINGFIELD – State Senator Dave Koehler (D-Peoria) voted for a bill to increase the funding for special education programs in districts statewide. The bill provides funding for districts that provide for certain special education students.

Senate Bill 1874 appropriates \$21 million to the State Board of Education to be used exclusively for school districts that could have received less Special Education funding in Fiscal Year 2008 than they did in Fiscal Year 2007. The legislation is a follow up bill to House Bill 4148 which continued the “hold harmless” provisions of state law that were in danger of expiring. The renewal of the “hold harmless” provisions passed the Senate 57-0-0 and the House 105-0-0 and became law on January 8, 2008.

The bill provides additional funds for 255 school districts in 60 counties throughout Illinois that are to be used exclusively for districts that will receive less than they did in the past fiscal year. The funds are distributed based on the current formula:

- a) 85% allocated based on average daily attendance
- b) 15% based on low income eligible pupil count

“Making sure our schools have the resources necessary to teach all of our children in a priority of, not only me, but of all of my colleagues. This important bill was needed to make sure our schools have the tools to prepare our kids for the world and we needed to get it done,” Senator Koehler said.

In the 46th Legislative District, \$1,065,972.18 is slated to be divided amongst 5 school districts. They are:

- Peoria School District 150 - (\$937,192.63)
- Pleasant Hill School District 69 - (\$62,635.17)
- Pleasant Valley School District 62 - (\$36,677.80)
- Norwood Elementary School District 63 - (\$26,307.74)
- Oak Grove School District 68 - (\$3,158.84)

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