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HOUSE BILL 2520

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State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1994 Regular Session

By Representatives Horn, Chandler, Stevens, Sheahan, Padden, Brough, Talcott, Mielke, Tate, Wood and Reams

Read first time 01/17/94. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to educational choice; amending RCW 28A.225.220 and  
2 28A.225.270; and creating a new section.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that education cannot  
5 occur in schools plagued by violence. Students who do not feel safe  
6 and secure in their classrooms, hallways, and playgrounds cannot be  
7 expected to learn. Should violence occur in a student's school, the  
8 student must be allowed to transfer to another school in which he or  
9 she feels safe and secure.

10 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.225.220 and 1993 c 336 s 1008 are each amended to  
11 read as follows:

12 (1) Any board of directors may make agreements with adults choosing  
13 to attend school: PROVIDED, That unless such arrangements are approved  
14 by the state superintendent of public instruction, a reasonable tuition  
15 charge, fixed by the state superintendent of public instruction, shall  
16 be paid by such students as best may be accommodated therein.

1 (2) A district is strongly encouraged to honor the request of a  
2 parent or guardian for his or her child to attend a school in another  
3 district.

4 (3) A district shall release a student to a nonresident district  
5 that agrees to accept the student if:

6 (a) A financial, educational, safety, or health condition affecting  
7 the student would likely be reasonably improved as a result of the  
8 transfer; or

9 (b) Attendance at the school in the nonresident district is more  
10 accessible to the parent's place of work or to the location of child  
11 care; or

12 (c) There is a special hardship or detrimental condition; or

13 (d) The school in which the student attends has had five or more  
14 violent crimes, as defined in RCW 9.94A.030, committed on school  
15 grounds during school hours in the prior twelve months.

16 (4) A district may deny the request of a resident student to  
17 transfer to a nonresident district if the release of the student would  
18 adversely affect the district's existing desegregation plan.

19 (5) For the purpose of helping a district assess the quality of its  
20 education program, a resident school district may request an optional  
21 exit interview or questionnaire with the parents or guardians of a  
22 child transferring to another district. No parent or guardian may be  
23 forced to attend such an interview or complete the questionnaire.

24 (6) Beginning with the 1993-94 school year, school districts may  
25 not charge transfer fees or tuition for nonresident students enrolled  
26 under subsection (3) of this section and RCW 28A.225.225. Reim-  
27 bursement of a high school district for cost of educating high school  
28 pupils of a nonhigh school district shall not be deemed a transfer fee  
29 as affecting the apportionment of current state school funds.

30 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28A.225.270 and 1990 1st ex.s. c 9 s 205 are each  
31 amended to read as follows:

32 Each school district in the state shall (~~adopt and implement~~)  
33 have a policy allowing intradistrict enrollment options (~~(no later than~~  
34 ~~June 30, 1990)~~). Each district shall establish its own policy  
35 establishing standards on how the intradistrict enrollment options will  
36 be implemented. However, effective September 1, 1994, the district's  
37 policy shall allow a student to transfer to another school if the  
38 school in which the student attends has had five or more violent

1 crimes, as defined in RCW 9.94A.030, committed on school grounds during  
2 school hours in the prior twelve months.

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