
SENATE BILL 5447

State of Washington

54th Legislature

1995 Regular Session

By Senator McAuliffe; by request of Office of Financial Management

Read first time 01/24/95. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to tying the use of student learning improvement
2 grants to attaining the student learning goals and essential learning
3 requirements developed by the commission on student learning; and
4 amending RCW 28A.300.138.

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

6 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.300.138 and 1994 c 245 s 1 are each amended to
7 read as follows:

8 (1)(a) To the extent funds are appropriated, the office of the
9 superintendent of public instruction shall provide student learning
10 improvement grants for the 1994-95 through 1996-97 school years. The
11 purpose of the grants is to provide funds for additional time and
12 resources for site-based planning (~~(activities)~~) and associated staff
13 development (~~(and planning)~~) intended to improve student learning for
14 all students, including students with diverse needs, consistent with
15 the student learning goals in RCW 28A.150.210. The superintendent of
16 public instruction shall provide planning assistance to schools and
17 districts through the center for the improvement of student learning
18 and other offices.

1 (b) State evaluations and findings on the schools for the twenty-
2 first century program, as well as national research, indicate that
3 extra time for site-based planning activities and staff development and
4 planning for school improvement efforts is critical to the success of
5 such efforts. It is the intent of the legislature that school
6 districts use the funds under this section to provide time and
7 resources for site-based planning activities and staff development and
8 planning that is in addition to locally funded extra time and resources
9 provided for purposes of improving student learning. Districts are
10 strongly encouraged not to supplant local funds with state funds
11 provided under this section.

12 (2) To be eligible for student learning improvement grants, school
13 district boards of directors shall:

14 (a) Adopt a policy regarding the involvement of school staff,
15 parents, and community members in instructional decisions;

16 (b) Submit school-based applications that have been developed by
17 school building personnel, parents, and community members. Each
18 application shall:

19 (i) Enumerate specific activities to be carried out as part of the
20 grant;

21 (ii) Identify the technical resources desired and availability of
22 those resources;

23 (iii) Include a proposed budget; and

24 (iv) Indicate that the application was approved by the school
25 principal and representatives of teachers, classified employees,
26 parents, and the community.

27 (3) The school board shall conduct at least one public hearing on
28 schools' plans for using the grants before the board approves the
29 plans. Boards may hear and approve more than one school's plan at a
30 hearing. The board shall only submit applications for grants to the
31 superintendent of public instruction if the board has approved the
32 plans.

33 (4) If the application is consistent with the purposes of the grant
34 program and the requirements of subsections (2) and (3) of this section
35 are met consistent with the student learning goals in RCW 28A.150.210
36 and current best practices research, the superintendent of public
37 instruction shall approve the grant application.

38 (5) To the extent funds are appropriated, and for allocation
39 purposes only, the amount of grants for the 1994-95, 1995-96, and 1996-

1 97 school years shall be based on time equivalent to up to four days
2 depending upon the number of grant applications received and on the
3 number of full-time equivalent certificated staff who work in the
4 school. Funds from the grant may be used to pay for staff development
5 and planning for certificated and classified staff and site-based
6 planning activities. Site-based planning activities and staff
7 development and planning conducted pursuant to this section also may be
8 conducted during the months of July and August preceding each school
9 year for which the school has received a grant. Expenses occurring as
10 a result of these summer site-based planning activities and staff
11 development and planning may be paid from the school year grant.
12 School districts shall use all funds received under this section solely
13 for grants to schools and shall not use any portion of the funds for
14 indirect costs.

15 (6) The state schools for the deaf and blind may apply for grants
16 under this section.

17 (7) The superintendent of public instruction shall adopt timelines
18 and rules as necessary under chapter 34.05 RCW to administer the
19 program. The superintendent may modify application requirements for
20 schools that have schools for the twenty-first century projects under
21 RCW 28A.630.100.

22 (8) The superintendent of public instruction shall report annually
23 to the legislature by December 1st the following information:

24 (a) The use of the funds granted under this section;

25 (b) An estimate of any increase in staff development and planning
26 in the 1994-95, 1995-96, and 1996-97 school years respectively, above
27 that in the 1993-94 school year; and

28 (c) An estimate of any increase in site-based planning activities
29 in the 1994-95, 1995-96, and 1996-97 school years respectively, above
30 that in the 1993-94 school year.

31 (9) Funding under this section shall not become a part of the
32 state's basic program of education obligation as set forth under
33 Article IX of the state Constitution.

34 (10) Beginning with the 1995-96 school year, each school receiving
35 a student learning improvement grant shall keep on file a comprehensive
36 plan to attain the student learning goals and essential learning
37 requirements developed by the commission on student learning and

- 1 documentation of staff development and other activities undertaken to
- 2 implement the plan over time.

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