

ESSB 6242 - H COMM AMD
By Committee on Education

ADOPTED 03/06/2014

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "Sec. 1. RCW 28A.305.141 and 2009 c 543 s 2 are each amended to
4 read as follows:

5 (1) In addition to waivers authorized under RCW 28A.305.140 and
6 28A.655.180, the state board of education may grant waivers from the
7 requirement for a one hundred eighty-day school year under RCW
8 28A.150.220 (~~and 28A.150.250~~) to school districts that propose to
9 operate one or more schools on a flexible calendar for purposes of
10 economy and efficiency as provided in this section. The requirement
11 under RCW 28A.150.220 that school districts offer (~~an annual average~~
12 ~~instructional hour offering of at least one thousand~~) minimum
13 instructional hours shall not be waived.

14 (2) A school district seeking a waiver under this section must
15 submit an application that includes:

16 (a) A proposed calendar for the school day and school year that
17 demonstrates how the instructional hour requirement will be maintained;

18 (b) An explanation and estimate of the economies and efficiencies
19 to be gained from compressing the instructional hours into fewer than
20 one hundred eighty days;

21 (c) An explanation of how monetary savings from the proposal will
22 be redirected to support student learning;

23 (d) A summary of comments received at one or more public hearings
24 on the proposal and how concerns will be addressed;

25 (e) An explanation of the impact on students who rely upon free and
26 reduced-price school child nutrition services and the impact on the
27 ability of the child nutrition program to operate an economically
28 independent program;

29 (f) An explanation of the impact on employees in education support

1 positions and the ability to recruit and retain employees in education
2 support positions;

3 (g) An explanation of the impact on students whose parents work
4 during the missed school day; and

5 (h) Other information that the state board of education may request
6 to assure that the proposed flexible calendar will not adversely affect
7 student learning.

8 (3) The state board of education shall adopt criteria to evaluate
9 waiver requests. No more than five districts may be granted waivers.
10 Waivers may be granted for up to three years. After each school year,
11 the state board of education shall analyze empirical evidence to
12 determine whether the reduction is affecting student learning. If the
13 state board of education determines that student learning is adversely
14 affected, the school district shall discontinue the flexible calendar
15 as soon as possible but not later than the beginning of the next school
16 year after the determination has been made. All waivers expire August
17 31, ((2014)) 2017.

18 (a) Two of the five waivers granted under this subsection shall be
19 granted to school districts with student populations of less than one
20 hundred fifty students.

21 (b) Three of the five waivers granted under this subsection shall
22 be granted to school districts with student populations of between one
23 hundred fifty-one and five hundred students.

24 ~~(4) ((The state board of education shall examine the waivers
25 granted under this section and make a recommendation to the education
26 committees of the legislature by December 15, 2013, regarding whether
27 the waiver program should be continued, modified, or allowed to
28 terminate. This recommendation should focus on whether the program
29 resulted in improved student learning as demonstrated by empirical
30 evidence. Such evidence includes, but is not limited to: Improved
31 scores on the Washington assessment of student learning, results of the
32 dynamic indicators of basic early literacy skills, student grades, and
33 attendance.~~

34 ~~(5))~~ This section expires August 31, ((2014)) 2017."

35 Correct the title.

EFFECT: The amendment makes the following changes:

The requirement that school districts may not waive the annual average instructional hour offering is changed to require that districts offer a minimum instructional hours offering.

In addition to other waiver application requirements, districts must explain the impact of the waiver on employees in education support positions.

The waivers remain limited to five school districts, but the language requiring that two of the waivers be granted to districts with less than 150 students and three of the waivers be granted to districts with 150-500 students is restored.

The description of how students will be counted is removed.

Both the waivers and the section expire August 31, 2017.

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