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HOUSE BILL 2200

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State of Washington                      52nd Legislature                      1991 Regular Session

By Representative Phillips.

Read first time April 10, 1991.                      Referred to Committee on Appropriations.

1            AN ACT Relating to providing state funding assistance to school  
2 districts; adding new sections to chapter 28A.300 RCW; and making an  
3 appropriation.

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

5            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.**            (1) The complex needs grant program is  
6 hereby created.    The purpose of the grant program is to provide  
7 financial assistance to school districts that have a high number of  
8 students who cost more to educate due to social and economic factors.

9            (2) Funds appropriated by the legislature for the purposes of the  
10 complex needs grant program shall not become a part of the state's  
11 basic program of education obligation as set forth under Article IX of  
12 the state Constitution.

13            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 2.**            Grants under the complex needs grant  
14 program shall be allocated by a formula adopted by the superintendent

1 of public instruction after consultation with representatives of the  
2 legislature, governors, teachers, administrators, students, school  
3 board members, and others. Funds, as appropriated by the legislature,  
4 shall be distributed to school districts qualifying for elements  
5 specified in this section. The elements of the complex needs formula  
6 shall include elements specified in LEAP Document 30, as developed by  
7 the legislative evaluation and accountability program a committee April  
8 \_\_\_\_, 1991, at \_\_\_ hours. As used in this section, "LEAP Document 30"  
9 means the computerized tabulation and formulas for the following  
10 elements:

11 (1) A poverty element based on the ratio of free and reduced meals  
12 compared to the headcount enrollment of the school district. A minimum  
13 of sixty-five percent of the students must be participating in free and  
14 reduced lunch programs for the district to qualify for this funding  
15 element;

16 (2) A special education element based, in part, on the ratio of  
17 special education students compared to the headcount enrollment of the  
18 school district. School districts with more than two thousand students  
19 participating in special education programs shall receive at least  
20 fifty dollars per weighted special education student. A minimum of  
21 nine percent of the students must be participating in special education  
22 programs for a district to qualify for this funding element.

23 (3) A bilingual education element based, in part, on the ratio of  
24 students participating in bilingual education programs compared to  
25 headcount enrollment of the school district. School districts with  
26 more than twenty-five thousand headcount enrollment shall receive a  
27 minimum of one hundred fifty dollars per weighted bilingual student.  
28 A minimum of nine percent of the district students must be  
29 participating in bilingual education programs for a district to qualify  
30 for this funding factor, except that any district with over twenty

1 percent enrollment in bilingual programs shall receive a minimum of  
2 fifty dollars per student.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** Before receiving complex needs grants,  
4 eligible school districts shall submit the following to the  
5 superintendent of public instruction:

6 (1) Documentation that the district board of directors has held at  
7 least one public hearing regarding the proposed use of the funds;

8 (2) A description of the services, programs, or activities that  
9 will be funded in whole or in part by the funds, and a proposed budget;  
10 and

11 (3) A description of the methods and procedures to be used to  
12 evaluate the effectiveness of the services, programs, or activities  
13 supported by the funds.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) Each school district receiving funds  
15 under the grant program established under section 1 of this act shall  
16 submit biennially to the superintendent of public instruction a report  
17 on the district's use of the funds. The report shall include an  
18 assessment of the effectiveness of the services, programs, or  
19 activities supported by the funds and other information required by the  
20 superintendent of public instruction. The superintendent of public  
21 instruction shall establish the date for submittal of reports. The  
22 superintendent of public instruction shall work with the eligible  
23 districts in developing reporting requirements that do not create  
24 excessive paperwork but that provide information necessary for the  
25 legislature to evaluate the effectiveness of the grant program in  
26 improving the educational outcomes of students with special needs in  
27 the districts.

1 (2) The superintendent of public instruction shall submit  
2 biennially to the legislature a report on the complex needs grant  
3 program. The first report shall be submitted not later than December  
4 1, 1993.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** The sum of seven million, five hundred  
6 thousand dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is  
7 appropriated for the biennium ending June 30, 1993, to the  
8 superintendent of public instruction from the general fund for the  
9 purposes of this act.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** Sections 1 through 4 of this act are  
11 each added to chapter 28A.300 RCW.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** If any provision of this act or its  
13 application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the  
14 remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other  
15 persons or circumstances is not affected.