
HOUSE BILL 1065

State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1993 Regular Session

By Representatives G. Cole, Campbell, G. Fisher, Dorn, Jones, Jacobsen, Lemmon, Johanson, Roland, L. Johnson, Cothorn, J. Kohl and Franklin

Read first time 01/13/93. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to student pedestrian safety; adding new sections
2 to chapter 28A.160 RCW; creating a new section; making an
3 appropriation; and providing an expiration date.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the number of
6 motor vehicles on the roads of the state has increased dramatically in
7 recent years, and that this increase has created unsafe conditions for
8 many of our children as they travel to and from school. The
9 legislature further finds that responsibility to ensure safe walking
10 conditions and bus stops for our children is fragmented, and that
11 inadequate resources have been devoted to improving pedestrian safety.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The school pathway and bus stop improvement
13 program is hereby created. The purpose of the program is to establish
14 a council to make recommendations about roads, streets, and bus stops
15 that the council considers inadequate for school children as they
16 travel to school, and develop a program for making safety improvements.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The school pathway and bus stop improvement
2 program council is established. Membership on the council shall
3 include representatives from the department of transportation, the
4 office of the superintendent of public instruction, school district
5 administrators, school board members, counties, cities, the traffic
6 safety commission, school bus drivers, and parents. Representatives of
7 state agencies shall be selected by the respective agency. Other
8 representatives shall be selected by appropriate state-wide
9 organizations. The council shall select a chair from among its
10 members. Staffing and administrative support shall be provided by the
11 Washington traffic safety commission.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) The council established in section 3 of
13 this act shall:

14 (a) Formulate criteria for identifying roads and school bus stops
15 that the council considers inadequate for elementary school students
16 and establish recommendations for standards for making safety
17 improvements;

18 (b) Based on the criteria and standards in (a) of this subsection,
19 inventory those roads within a one-mile radius of elementary schools
20 and those school bus stops considered inadequate by the council, and
21 recommend priority safety improvement projects;

22 (c) Develop a plan by which the recommended priority safety
23 improvement projects may be implemented, and make the plan available to
24 applicable local jurisdictions;

25 (d) Based on the criteria and standards in (a) of this subsection,
26 formulate recommended guidelines for student pedestrian safety within
27 a one-mile radius of new elementary schools. At a minimum, the council
28 shall develop recommended guidelines for incorporating pedestrian
29 safety considerations into school siting decisions, constructing
30 pedestrian safety infrastructure improvements within a specified time
31 after new elementary schools are opened, and creating incentives and
32 enforcement measures to ensure that the safety improvements are
33 completed; and

34 (e) Estimate the cost of implementing state-wide sidewalk crossing
35 rules.

36 (2) By June 30, 1995, the council shall submit its recommendations
37 and findings required in subsection (1) of this section to the
38 appropriate committees of the house of representatives and the senate,

1 the governor, local governments, school districts, and other
2 appropriate agencies and organizations. After July 1, 1995, the
3 council shall provide general oversight, coordination, and assistance
4 to local governments, state agencies, and private parties in the
5 consideration and implementation of the recommendations.

6 (3) The recommendations of the council are advisory only and shall
7 not constitute proof of an actual unsafe condition.

8 (4) Local jurisdictions may adopt, in whole or in part, the
9 recommendations of the council.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Sections 2 through 4 of this act are each
11 added to chapter 28A.160 RCW.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** The sum of twenty thousand dollars, or as
13 much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the biennium
14 ending June 30, 1995, from the state general fund to the Washington
15 traffic safety commission for the purposes of this act.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** Sections 1 through 4 of this act shall
17 expire June 30, 1997.

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