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HOUSE BILL 1175

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By Representatives Jacobsen, Dellwo, Dorn, J. Kohl, Brumsickle, Linville, Dunshee, Pruitt, Johanson, Wood, Leonard and Basich

Read first time 01/20/93. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to education; amending RCW 28A.150.220,  
2 28A.150.220, and 28A.600.060; reenacting and amending RCW 28A.230.090;  
3 and providing a contingent effective date.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.150.220 and 1990 c 33 s 105 are each amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 (1) For the purposes of this section and RCW 28A.150.250 and  
8 28A.150.260:

9 (a) The term "total program hour offering" shall mean those hours  
10 when students are provided the opportunity to engage in educational  
11 activity planned by and under the direction of school district staff,  
12 as directed by the administration and board of directors of the  
13 district, inclusive of intermissions for class changes, recess and  
14 teacher/parent-guardian conferences which are planned and scheduled by  
15 the district for the purpose of discussing students' educational needs  
16 or progress, and exclusive of time actually spent for meals.

17 (b) "Instruction in work skills" shall include instruction in one  
18 or more of the following areas: Industrial arts, home and family life  
19 education, business and office education, distributive education,

1 agricultural education, health occupations education, vocational  
2 education, trade and industrial education, technical education and  
3 career education.

4 (2) Satisfaction of the basic education goal identified in RCW  
5 28A.150.210 shall be considered to be implemented by the following  
6 program requirements:

7 (a) Each school district shall make available to students in  
8 kindergarten at least a total program offering of four hundred fifty  
9 hours. The program shall include reading, arithmetic, language skills  
10 and such other subjects and such activities as the school district  
11 shall determine to be appropriate for the education of the school  
12 district's students enrolled in such program;

13 (b) Each school district shall make available to students in grades  
14 one through three, at least a total program hour offering of two  
15 thousand seven hundred hours. A minimum of ninety-five percent of the  
16 total program hour offerings shall be in the basic skills areas of  
17 reading/language arts (which may include (~~foreign~~) languages other  
18 than English, including American Indian languages), mathematics, social  
19 studies, science, music, art, health and physical education. The  
20 remaining five percent of the total program hour offerings may include  
21 such subjects and activities as the school district shall determine to  
22 be appropriate for the education of the school district's students in  
23 such grades;

24 (c) Each school district shall make available to students in grades  
25 four through six at least a total program hour offering of two thousand  
26 nine hundred seventy hours. A minimum of ninety percent of the total  
27 program hour offerings shall be in the basic skills areas of  
28 reading/language arts (which may include (~~foreign~~) languages other  
29 than English, including American Indian languages), mathematics, social  
30 studies, science, music, art, health and physical education. The  
31 remaining ten percent of the total program hour offerings may include  
32 such subjects and activities as the school district shall determine to  
33 be appropriate for the education of the school district's students in  
34 such grades;

35 (d) Each school district shall make available to students in grades  
36 seven through eight, at least a total program hour offering of one  
37 thousand nine hundred eighty hours. A minimum of eighty-five percent  
38 of the total program hour offerings shall be in the basic skills areas  
39 of reading/language arts (which may include (~~foreign~~) languages other

1 than English, including American Indian languages), mathematics, social  
2 studies, science, music, art, health and physical education. A minimum  
3 of ten percent of the total program hour offerings shall be in the area  
4 of work skills. The remaining five percent of the total program hour  
5 offerings may include such subjects and activities as the school  
6 district shall determine to be appropriate for the education of the  
7 school district's students in such grades;

8 (e) Each school district shall make available to students in grades  
9 nine through twelve at least a total program hour offering of four  
10 thousand three hundred twenty hours. A minimum of sixty percent of the  
11 total program hour offerings shall be in the basic skills areas of  
12 language arts, (~~foreign~~) languages other than English, which may be  
13 American Indian languages, mathematics, social studies, science, music,  
14 art, health and physical education. A minimum of twenty percent of the  
15 total program hour offerings shall be in the area of work skills. The  
16 remaining twenty percent of the total program hour offerings may  
17 include traffic safety or such subjects and activities as the school  
18 district shall determine to be appropriate for the education of the  
19 school district's students in such grades, with not less than one-half  
20 thereof in basic skills and/or work skills: PROVIDED, That each school  
21 district shall have the option of including grade nine within the  
22 program hour offering requirements of grades seven and eight so long as  
23 such requirements for grades seven through nine are increased to two  
24 thousand nine hundred seventy hours and such requirements for grades  
25 ten through twelve are decreased to three thousand two hundred forty  
26 hours.

27 (3) In order to provide flexibility to the local school districts  
28 in the setting of their curricula, and in order to maintain the intent  
29 of this legislation, which is to stress the instruction of basic skills  
30 and work skills, any local school district may establish minimum course  
31 mix percentages that deviate by up to five percentage points above or  
32 below those minimums required by subsection (2) of this section, so  
33 long as the total program hour requirement is still met.

34 (4) Nothing contained in subsection (2) of this section shall be  
35 construed to require individual students to attend school for any  
36 particular number of hours per day or to take any particular courses.

37 (5) Each school district's kindergarten through twelfth grade basic  
38 educational program shall be accessible to all students who are five  
39 years of age, as provided by RCW 28A.225.160, and less than twenty-one

1 years of age and shall consist of a minimum of one hundred eighty  
2 school days per school year in such grades as are conducted by a school  
3 district, and one hundred eighty half-days of instruction, or  
4 equivalent, in kindergarten: PROVIDED, That effective May 1, 1979, a  
5 school district may schedule the last five school days of the one  
6 hundred and eighty day school year for noninstructional purposes in the  
7 case of students who are graduating from high school, including, but  
8 not limited to, the observance of graduation and early release from  
9 school upon the request of a student, and all such students may be  
10 claimed as a full time equivalent student to the extent they could  
11 otherwise have been so claimed for the purposes of RCW 28A.150.250 and  
12 28A.150.260.

13 (6) The state board of education shall adopt rules to implement and  
14 ensure compliance with the program requirements imposed by this  
15 section, RCW 28A.150.250 and 28A.150.260, and such related supplemental  
16 program approval requirements as the state board may establish:  
17 PROVIDED, That each school district board of directors shall establish  
18 the basis and means for determining and monitoring the district's  
19 compliance with the basic skills and work skills percentage and course  
20 requirements of this section. The certification of the board of  
21 directors and the superintendent of a school district that the district  
22 is in compliance with such basic skills and work skills requirements  
23 may be accepted by the superintendent of public instruction and the  
24 state board of education.

25 (7) Handicapped education programs, vocational-technical institute  
26 programs, state institution and state residential school programs, all  
27 of which programs are conducted for the common school age, kindergarten  
28 through secondary school program students encompassed by this section,  
29 shall be exempt from the basic skills and work skills percentage and  
30 course requirements of this section in order that the unique needs,  
31 abilities or limitations of such students may be met.

32 (8) Any school district may petition the state board of education  
33 for a reduction in the total program hour offering requirements for one  
34 or more of the grade level groupings specified in this section. The  
35 state board of education shall grant all such petitions that are  
36 accompanied by an assurance that the minimum total program hour  
37 offering requirements in one or more other grade level groupings will  
38 be exceeded concurrently by no less than the number of hours of the  
39 reduction.

1       **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.150.220 and 1992 c 141 s 503 are each amended to  
2 read as follows:

3       (1) Satisfaction of the basic education program requirements  
4 identified in RCW 28A.150.210 shall be considered to be implemented by  
5 the following program:

6       (a) Each school district shall make available to students enrolled  
7 in kindergarten at least a total instructional offering of four hundred  
8 fifty hours. The program shall include instruction in the essential  
9 academic learning requirements under RCW 28A.630.885 and such other  
10 subjects and such activities as the school district shall determine to  
11 be appropriate for the education of the school district's students  
12 enrolled in such program;

13       (b) Each school district shall make available to students enrolled  
14 in grades one through twelve, at least a district-wide annual average  
15 total instructional hour offering of one thousand hours. The state  
16 board of education may define alternatives to classroom instructional  
17 time for students in grades nine through twelve enrolled in alternative  
18 learning experiences. The state board of education shall establish  
19 rules to determine annual average instructional hours for districts  
20 including fewer than twelve grades. The program shall include the  
21 essential academic learning requirements under RCW 28A.630.885 and such  
22 other subjects and such activities as the school district shall  
23 determine to be appropriate for the education of the school district's  
24 students enrolled in such group;

25       (c) If the essential academic learning requirements include a  
26 requirement of languages other than English, they shall include  
27 American Indian languages.

28       (2) Nothing contained in subsection (1) of this section shall be  
29 construed to require individual students to attend school for any  
30 particular number of hours per day or to take any particular courses.

31       (3) Each school district's kindergarten through twelfth grade basic  
32 educational program shall be accessible to all students who are five  
33 years of age, as provided by RCW 28A.225.160, and less than twenty-one  
34 years of age and shall consist of a minimum of one hundred eighty  
35 school days per school year in such grades as are conducted by a school  
36 district, and one hundred eighty half-days of instruction, or  
37 equivalent, in kindergarten: PROVIDED, That effective May 1, 1979, a  
38 school district may schedule the last five school days of the one  
39 hundred and eighty day school year for noninstructional purposes in the

1 case of students who are graduating from high school, including, but  
2 not limited to, the observance of graduation and early release from  
3 school upon the request of a student, and all such students may be  
4 claimed as a full time equivalent student to the extent they could  
5 otherwise have been so claimed for the purposes of RCW 28A.150.250 and  
6 28A.150.260.

7 (4) The state board of education shall adopt rules to implement and  
8 ensure compliance with the program requirements imposed by this  
9 section, RCW 28A.150.250 and 28A.150.260, and such related supplemental  
10 program approval requirements as the state board may establish.

11 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28A.230.090 and 1992 c 141 s 402 and 1992 c 60 s 1 are  
12 each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

13 (1) The state board of education shall establish high school  
14 graduation requirements or equivalencies for students.

15 Any course in Washington state history and government used to  
16 fulfill high school graduation requirements shall include information  
17 on the culture, history, and government of the American Indian peoples  
18 who were the first human inhabitants of the state.

19 (2) In recognition of the statutory authority of the state board of  
20 education to establish and enforce minimum high school graduation  
21 requirements, the state board shall periodically reevaluate the  
22 graduation requirements and shall report such findings to the  
23 legislature in a timely manner as determined by the state board.

24 (3) Pursuant to any (~~foreign language~~) requirement for  
25 instruction in languages other than English established by the state  
26 board of education or a local school district, or both, for purposes of  
27 high school graduation, students who receive instruction in American  
28 sign language or one or more American Indian languages shall be  
29 considered to have satisfied the state or local school district  
30 (~~foreign language~~) graduation requirement for instruction in one or  
31 more languages other than English.

32 (4) If requested by the student and his or her family, a student  
33 who has completed high school courses before attending high school  
34 shall be given high school credit which shall be applied to fulfilling  
35 high school graduation requirements if:

36 (a) The course was taken with high school students, if the academic  
37 level of the course exceeds the requirements for seventh and eighth  
38 grade classes, and the student has successfully passed by completing

1 the same course requirements and examinations as the high school  
2 students enrolled in the class; or

3 (b) The academic level of the course exceeds the requirements for  
4 seventh and eighth grade classes and the course would qualify for high  
5 school credit, because the course is similar or equivalent to a course  
6 offered at a high school in the district as determined by the school  
7 district board of directors.

8 (5) Students who have taken and successfully completed high school  
9 courses under the circumstances in subsection (4) of this section shall  
10 not be required to take an additional competency examination or perform  
11 any other additional assignment to receive credit. Subsection (4) of  
12 this section shall also apply to students enrolled in high school on  
13 April 11, 1990, who took the courses before attending high school.

14 **Sec. 4.** RCW 28A.600.060 and 1991 c 116 s 22 are each amended to  
15 read as follows:

16 The recipients of the Washington state honors awards shall be  
17 selected based on student achievement in both verbal and quantitative  
18 areas, as measured by a test or tests of general achievement selected  
19 by the superintendent of public instruction, and shall include student  
20 performance in the academic core areas of English, mathematics,  
21 science, social studies, and ~~((foreign))~~ languages other than English,  
22 which may be American Indian languages. The performance level in such  
23 academic core subjects shall be determined by grade point averages,  
24 numbers of credits earned, and courses enrolled in during the beginning  
25 of the senior year.

26 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Section 2 of this act shall take effect  
27 September 1, 1998. However, section 2 of this act shall not take  
28 effect if, by September 1, 1998, a law is enacted stating that a school  
29 accountability and academic assessment system is not in place.

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