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ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1333

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State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1993 Regular Session

By House Committee on Trade, Economic Development & Housing (originally sponsored by Representatives Flemming, Leonard, Veloria, Chappell, R. Fisher, Dunshee, Linville, Eide, Franklin, Ludwig, Roland, Rayburn, Pruitt, Finkbeiner, Holm, Basich, Lemmon, Johanson, Karahalios, Jones, H. Myers, Morris, L. Johnson, Ogden and J. Kohl)

Read first time 03/03/93.

1 AN ACT Relating to youth gang violence reduction; adding a new  
2 chapter to Title 43 RCW; and creating new sections.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds and declares that:

5 (1) The number of youth who are members and associates of gangs and  
6 commit gang violence has significantly increased throughout the entire  
7 greater Puget Sound, Spokane, and other areas of the state;

8 (2) Youth gang violence has caused a tremendous strain on the  
9 progress of the communities impacted. The loss of life, property, and  
10 positive opportunity for growth caused by youth gang violence has  
11 reached intolerable levels. Increased youth gang activity has  
12 seriously strained the budgets of many local jurisdictions, as well as  
13 threatened the ability of the educational system to educate our youth;

14 (3) Among youth gang members the high school drop-out rate is  
15 significantly higher than among nongang members. Since the economic  
16 future of our state depends on a highly educated and skilled work  
17 force, this high school drop-out rate threatens the economic welfare of  
18 our future work force, as well as the future economic growth of our  
19 state;

1 (4) The unemployment rate among youth gang members is higher than  
2 that among the general youth population. The unusual unemployment  
3 rate, lack of education and skills, and the increased criminal activity  
4 could significantly impact our future prison population;

5 (5) Most youth gangs are subcultural. This implies that gangs  
6 provide the nurturing, discipline, and guidance to gang youth and  
7 potential gang youth that is generally provided by communities and  
8 other social systems. The subcultural designation means that youth  
9 gang participation and violence can be effectively reduced in  
10 Washington communities and schools through the involvement of  
11 community, educational, criminal justice, and employment systems  
12 working in a unified manner with parents and individuals who have a  
13 firsthand knowledge of youth gangs and at-risk youth; and

14 (6) A strong unified effort among parents and community,  
15 educational, criminal justice, and employment systems would facilitate:  
16 (a) The learning process; (b) the control and reduction of gang  
17 violence; (c) the prevention of youth joining negative gangs; and (d)  
18 the intervention into youth gangs.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** It is the intent of the legislature to cause  
20 the development of positive prevention and intervention pilot programs  
21 for elementary and secondary age youth through cooperation between  
22 individual schools, local organizations, and government. It is also  
23 the intent of the legislature that if the prevention and intervention  
24 pilot programs are determined to be effective in reducing problems  
25 associated with youth gang violence, that other counties in the state  
26 be eligible to receive special state funding to establish similar  
27 positive prevention and intervention programs.

28 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** Unless the context otherwise requires, the  
29 following definitions shall apply throughout sections 1 through 11 of  
30 this act:

31 (1) "School" means any public school within a school district any  
32 portion of which is in a county with a population of over one hundred  
33 ninety thousand.

34 (2) "Community organization" means any organization recognized by  
35 a city or county as such, as well as private, nonprofit organizations  
36 registered with the secretary of state.

1 (3) "Gang risk prevention and intervention pilot program" means a  
2 community-based positive prevention and intervention program for gang  
3 members, potential gang members, at-risk youth, and elementary through  
4 high school-aged youth directed at all of the following:

5 (a) Reducing the probability of youth involvement in gang  
6 activities and consequent violence.

7 (b) Establishing ties, at an early age, between youth and community  
8 organizations.

9 (c) Committing local business and community resources to positive  
10 programming for youth.

11 (d) Committing state resources to assist in creating the gang risk  
12 prevention and intervention pilot programs.

13 (4) "Cultural awareness retreat" means a program that temporarily  
14 relocates at-risk youth or gang members from their usual social  
15 environment to a different social environment, with the specific  
16 purpose of having them performing activities which will enhance or  
17 increase their positive behavior and potential life successes.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) The department of community development  
19 may recommend existing programs or contract with school districts for  
20 the development, administration, and implementation in the county of  
21 community-based gang risk prevention and intervention pilot programs.

22 (2) Proposals by the school district for gang risk prevention and  
23 intervention pilot program grant funding shall begin with school years  
24 no sooner than the 1994-95 session, and last for a duration of two  
25 years.

26 (3) The school district proposal shall include:

27 (a) A description of the program goals, activities, and curriculum.  
28 The description of the program goals shall include a list of measurable  
29 objectives for the purpose of evaluation by the school district. To  
30 the extent possible, proposals shall contain empirical data on current  
31 problems, such as drop-out rates and occurrences of violence on and off  
32 campus by school-age individuals.

33 (b) A description of the individual school or schools and the  
34 geographic area to be affected by the program.

35 (c) A demonstration of broad-based support for the program from  
36 business and community organizations.

37 (d) A clear description of the experience, expertise, and other  
38 qualifications of the community organizations to conduct an effective

1 prevention and intervention program in cooperation with a school or a  
2 group of schools.

3 (e) A proposed budget for expenditure of the grant.

4 (4) Grants awarded under this section may not be used for the  
5 administrative costs of the school district or the individual school.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** (1) A school district in a county with a  
7 population of over one hundred ninety thousand may request proposals  
8 for establishing gang risk prevention and intervention pilot programs  
9 from either public entities that apply jointly with individual schools  
10 or community organizations. The proposals shall be reviewed and  
11 recommendations for awarding grants shall be made by a committee made  
12 up of: (a) A representative from the school district taking the  
13 proposal, appointed by the school district's board of directors; (b) a  
14 representative appointed by the director of the department of community  
15 development or designate; and (c) a representative from the local  
16 juvenile court administration.

17 (2) A school district, upon its election to enter into a contract  
18 pursuant to section 4 of this act, shall, no later than March 1, 1994,  
19 distribute a standard request for proposals.

20 (3) Proposals made to the school district must comply with the  
21 conditions of the grant.

22 (4) The school district shall additionally monitor and evaluate the  
23 gang risk prevention and intervention pilot programs pursuant to the  
24 following criteria:

25 (a) Success in obtaining stated goals.

26 (b) Reduction in drop-out rates.

27 (c) Reduction in violence among students, on and off campus.

28 (d) Development of techniques for early identification of at-risk  
29 youth.

30 (5) The school district shall report to the department of community  
31 development the results of the program.

32 (6) Grants awarded under this section may not be used for  
33 administrative costs of the school district or the individual school.

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** Gang risk prevention and intervention pilot  
35 programs shall include, but are not limited to:

36 (1) Counseling for targeted at-risk students, parents, and  
37 families, individually and collectively.

1 (2) Exposure to positive sports and cultural activities, promoting  
2 affiliations between youth and the local community.

3 (3) Job training, which may include apprentice programs in  
4 coordination with local businesses, job skills development at the  
5 school, or information about vocational opportunities in the community.

6 (4) Positive interaction with local law enforcement personnel.

7 (5) The use of local organizations to provide job search training  
8 skills.

9 (6) Cultural awareness retreats.

10 (7) The use of specified state resources, as requested.

11 (8) Full service schools under section 9 of this act.

12 (9) Community service such as volunteerism and citizenship.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** (1) Upon request from the local community  
14 organization receiving an award under section 5 of this act or the  
15 granting local school district, or both, the employment security  
16 department shall provide a job counselor or counselors to assist at  
17 cultural awareness retreats. The counselor shall provide assistance  
18 with the following:

19 (a) Testing for job occupation preferences.

20 (b) Information on the skills needed for different occupations.

21 (c) Coordinating the personal appearance of small business owners  
22 or corporate managers to explain the type of skills and characteristics  
23 businesses currently need in prospective employees, as well as those of  
24 prospective future employees.

25 (d) Establishing a business mentor program between the small  
26 business owners or corporate managers and the youth who are willing to  
27 participate.

28 (e) Establishing a specific program that provides help with  
29 employment opportunities for youth who attend cultural awareness  
30 retreats.

31 The department may provide other services than those specified.

32 (2) Upon request from the local community organization awarded the  
33 grant, the local school district, or both, the department may provide  
34 those services specified in subsection (1) of this section for the  
35 youth who are receiving services from the local community organization.

36 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** Upon request from the local community  
37 organization receiving an award under section 5 of this act or the

1 granting local school district, or both, the department of labor and  
2 industries shall:

3 (1) Provide information and assistance with regards to the skills  
4 and educational backgrounds needed to apply for apprenticeship  
5 programs.

6 (2) Provide direction and assistance with applications for  
7 apprenticeship programs.

8 (3) Explore and examine the feasibility of establishing  
9 preapprenticeship programs for those youth who cannot qualify for  
10 apprenticeships because of age or educational deficiencies, and are  
11 participating or have participated in the retreat.

12 (4) Provide assistance for and coordination of the personal  
13 appearance of representatives of the joint apprenticeship committee  
14 with the specific purpose of discussing the skills needed to perform  
15 different occupations.

16 (5) Provide assistance for and coordination of the establishment of  
17 a joint apprenticeship mentor program with those youth who are  
18 participating or have participated in the retreat program.

19 The department may provide other services.

20 Upon request from the local community organization receiving the  
21 award under section 5 of this act or the local school district, or  
22 both, the department shall provide the services in this section either  
23 at the grant-receiving school or at the cultural awareness retreat, or  
24 both.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** (1) The purpose of a full service school  
26 shall be to increase the interaction between youth and the community at  
27 large. A full service school shall provide a wide range of  
28 opportunities for all citizens, including goals under RCW 28A.620.010  
29 (1), (2), (3), and (6), and subsection (2) of this section.

30 (2) The local school district and the local community organization  
31 that received a grant under section 5 of this act shall work with other  
32 community organizations, the superintendent of public instruction, and  
33 school personnel in the selected school to determine the services  
34 needed by the community that shall be offered at the full service  
35 school.

36 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 10.** (1) Upon request, the division of juvenile  
37 rehabilitation shall through cooperation with private business or

1 through interagency agreement with the state parks and recreation  
2 commission or department of natural resources, or both, provide  
3 facilities for cultural awareness retreats. The requests for  
4 facilities must be made by one of the following: (a) The community  
5 organization receiving the grant, or (b) the local school district that  
6 assisted in awarding the grant. The division may provide other  
7 services as requested.

8 (2) The services may be, but are not limited to, persons  
9 knowledgeable of juvenile gang behavior.

10 (3) Upon receiving a request for cultural awareness retreat  
11 facilities, the division shall notify the departments of employment  
12 security and labor and industries of the organization requesting the  
13 retreat, and the time, place, and date of the retreat.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 11.** Cultural awareness retreats shall include  
15 but are not limited to the following programs:

16 (1) To develop positive attitudes and self-esteem.

17 (2) To develop youth decision-making ability.

18 (3) To assist with career development and educational development.

19 (4) To help develop respect for the community, and ethnic origin.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 12.** Sections 2 through 11 of this act shall  
21 constitute a new chapter in Title 43 RCW.

22 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 13.** If specific funding for the purposes of  
23 this act, referencing this act by bill number, is not provided by June  
24 30, 1993, in the omnibus appropriations act, this act is null and void.

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