
HOUSE BILL 1333

State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1993 Regular Session

By Representatives Flemming, Leonard, Voloria, 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 01/25/93. Referred to Committee on Trade, Economic Development & Housing.

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

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

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

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

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

23 (a) Success in obtaining stated goals.

24 (b) Reduction in drop-out rates.

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

26 (d) Development of techniques for early identification of at-risk
27 youth.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

7 (6) Cultural awareness retreats.

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

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

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

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

17 (a) Testing for job occupation preferences.

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

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

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

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

29 The department may provide other services than those specified.

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

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** Upon request from the local community
35 organization receiving an award under section 5 of this act or the
36 granting local school district, or both, the department of labor and
37 industries shall:

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

4 (2) Provide direction and assistance with applications for
5 apprenticeship programs.

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

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

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

17 The department may provide other services.

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

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

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

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 10.** (1) Upon request, the division of juvenile
35 rehabilitation shall through cooperation with private business or
36 through interagency agreement with the state parks and recreation
37 commission or department of natural resources, or both, provide

1 facilities for cultural awareness retreats. The requests for
2 facilities must be made by one of the following: (a) The community
3 organization receiving the grant, or (b) the local school district that
4 assisted in awarding the grant. The division may provide other
5 services as requested.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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