

2 E2SHB 2909 - S COMM AMD  
3 By Committee on Education

4 NOT ADOPTED 2/29/96

5 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the  
6 following:

7 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.300  
8 RCW to read as follows:

9 (1) The center for the improvement of student learning, or its  
10 designee, shall develop and implement a process for identifying  
11 programs that have been proven to be effective based upon valid  
12 research in teaching elementary students to read. Additional programs  
13 shall be reviewed after the initial identification of effective  
14 programs.

15 (2) In identifying effective reading programs, the center for the  
16 improvement of student learning, or its designee, shall consult primary  
17 education teachers, state-wide reading organizations, institutions of  
18 higher education, the commission on student learning, parents,  
19 legislators, and other appropriate individuals and organizations.

20 (3) In identifying effective reading programs, the following  
21 criteria shall be used:

22 (a) Whether the program will help the student meet the essential  
23 academic learning requirements and the state-level and classroom-based  
24 assessments for reading;

25 (b) Whether the program has achieved documented results for  
26 students on valid and reliable assessments and is consistent with the  
27 assessment for reading developed by the commission on student learning;

28 (c) Whether the results of the program have been replicated at  
29 different locations over a period of time;

30 (d) Whether the requirements and specifications for implementing  
31 the program are clear so that potential users can clearly determine the  
32 requirements of the program and how to implement it;

33 (e) Whether, when considering the cost of implementing the program,  
34 the program is cost-effective relative to other similar types of  
35 programs;

1 (f) Whether the program addresses differing student populations;  
2 and

3 (g) Other appropriate criteria and considerations.

4 (4) The initial identification of effective reading programs shall  
5 be completed and a list of the identified programs prepared by May 1,  
6 1997.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) To the extent funds are appropriated, the  
8 commission on student learning in collaboration with the superintendent  
9 of public instruction and in consultation with the state board of  
10 education, faculty in educator preparation programs, educators,  
11 parents, and school directors, shall establish training programs for  
12 educators in the primary grades. The programs shall be designed to  
13 prepare educators to use the classroom-based assessments developed by  
14 the commission on student learning to determine how children are  
15 reading, select appropriate instructional strategies to improve reading  
16 instruction, and to involve parents in helping their children to learn  
17 to read. Funds, to the extent appropriated shall be used to develop  
18 the training program and to provide the training to the educators both  
19 through institutes and in the classroom.

20 (2) The superintendent of public instruction shall establish a  
21 grant program to provide incentives for teachers, schools, and school  
22 districts to use the identified programs on the approved list in grades  
23 kindergarten through four. Schools, school districts, and educational  
24 service districts may apply for grants. Funds for the grants shall be  
25 used for in-service training and instructional materials. Grants  
26 shall be awarded to the extent funds are appropriated in the 1997-99  
27 biennial appropriations act. Priority shall be given to grant  
28 applications involving schools and school districts with the lowest  
29 mean percentile scores on the state-wide fourth grade assessment  
30 required under RCW 28A.230.190 among grant applicants.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.300  
32 RCW to read as follows:

33 (1) After effective programs have been identified in accordance  
34 with section 1 of this act, the center for the improvement of student  
35 learning, or its designee, shall provide information and take other  
36 appropriate steps to inform elementary school teachers, principals,

1 curriculum directors, superintendents, school board members, college  
2 and university reading instruction faculty, and others of its findings.

3 (2) The center, in cooperation with state-wide organizations  
4 interested in improving literacy, also shall develop and implement  
5 strategies to improve reading instruction in the state, with a special  
6 emphasis on the instruction of reading in the primary grades using the  
7 effective reading programs that have been identified in accordance with  
8 section 1 of this act. The strategies may include, but should not be  
9 limited to, expanding and improving reading instruction of elementary  
10 school teachers in teacher preparation programs, expanded in-service  
11 training in reading instruction, the training of paraprofessionals and  
12 volunteers in reading instruction, improving classroom-based assessment  
13 of reading, and increasing state-wide and regional technical assistance  
14 in reading instruction.

15 (3) The center shall submit a status report to appropriate  
16 committees of the legislature by December 31, 1996, regarding its  
17 efforts to implement section 1 of this act and subsections (1) and (2)  
18 of this section. The report shall include a description of safeguards  
19 enacted to ensure the scientific integrity and objectivity of the  
20 assistance and advice provided by the center.

21 **Sec. 4.** RCW 28A.300.130 and 1993 c 336 s 501 are each amended to  
22 read as follows:

23 (1) Expanding activity in educational research, educational  
24 restructuring, and educational improvement initiatives has produced and  
25 continues to produce much valuable information. The legislature finds  
26 that such information should be shared with the citizens and  
27 educational community of the state as widely as possible. To  
28 facilitate access to information and materials on educational  
29 improvement and research, the superintendent of public instruction, to  
30 the extent funds are appropriated, shall establish the center for the  
31 improvement of student learning. The primary purpose of the center is  
32 to provide assistance and advice to parents, school board members,  
33 educators, and the public regarding strategies for assisting students  
34 in learning the essential academic learning requirements pursuant to  
35 RCW 28A.630.885. The center shall work in conjunction with the  
36 commission on student learning, educational service districts, and  
37 institutions of higher education.

38 (2) The center shall:

- 1 (a) Serve as a clearinghouse for the completed work and activities  
2 of the commission on student learning;
- 3 (b) Serve as a clearinghouse for information regarding successful  
4 educational restructuring and parental involvement programs in schools  
5 and districts, and information about efforts within institutions of  
6 higher education in the state to support educational restructuring  
7 initiatives in Washington schools and districts;
- 8 (c) Provide best practices research and advice that can be used to  
9 help schools develop and implement: Programs and practices to improve  
10 reading instruction; school improvement plans; school-based shared  
11 decision-making models; programs to promote lifelong learning and  
12 community involvement in education; school-to-work transition programs;  
13 programs to meet the needs of highly capable students; programs to meet  
14 the diverse needs of students based on gender, racial, ethnic,  
15 economic, and special needs status; and other programs that will assist  
16 educators in helping students learn the essential academic learning  
17 requirements;
- 18 (d) Develop and distribute, in conjunction with the commission on  
19 student learning, parental involvement materials, including  
20 instructional guides developed to inform parents of the essential  
21 academic learning requirements. The instructional guides also shall  
22 contain actions parents may take to assist their children in meeting  
23 the requirements, and should focus on reaching parents who have not  
24 previously been involved with their children's education;
- 25 (e) Identify obstacles to greater parent and community involvement  
26 in school shared decision-making processes and recommend strategies for  
27 helping parents and community members to participate effectively in  
28 school shared decision-making processes, including understanding and  
29 respecting the roles of school building administrators and staff;
- 30 (f) Take other actions to increase public awareness of the  
31 importance of parental and community involvement in education;
- 32 (g) Work with appropriate organizations to inform teachers,  
33 district and school administrators, and school directors about the  
34 waivers available under RCW 28A.305.140 and the broadened school board  
35 powers under RCW 28A.320.015;
- 36 (h) Provide training and consultation services;
- 37 (i) Address methods for improving the success rates of certain  
38 ethnic and racial student groups; and

1 (j) Perform other functions consistent with the purpose of the  
2 center as prescribed in subsection (1) of this section.

3 (3) The superintendent of public instruction, after consultation  
4 with the commission on student learning, shall select and employ a  
5 director for the center.

6 (4) The superintendent may enter into contracts with individuals or  
7 organizations including but not limited to: School districts;  
8 teachers; higher education faculty; institutions of higher education;  
9 state agencies; business or community-based organizations; and other  
10 individuals and organizations to accomplish the duties and  
11 responsibilities of the center. The superintendent shall contract out  
12 with community-based organizations to meet the provisions of subsection  
13 (2) (d) and (e) of this section. In carrying out the duties and  
14 responsibilities of the center, the superintendent, whenever possible,  
15 shall use practitioners to assist agency staff as well as assist  
16 educators and others in schools and districts.

17 (5) The superintendent shall report annually to the commission on  
18 student learning on the activities of the center.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** This act is necessary for the immediate  
20 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the  
21 state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take  
22 effect immediately.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** If specific funding for section 2 of this  
24 act, referencing this act by bill number, is not provided by June 30,  
25 1996, in the supplemental omnibus appropriations act, section 2 of this  
26 act is null and void."

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29  
30 On page 1, line 1 of the title, after "literacy;" strike the  
31 remainder of the title and insert "amending RCW 28A.300.130; adding new  
32 sections to chapter 28A.300 RCW; creating new sections; and declaring  
33 an emergency."

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