

1 **SHB 1378 - H AMD 136 ADOPTED 3-13-97**

2 By Representative Radcliff

3 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
4 following:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that school
6 districts may seek to provide instructional programs to students
7 who are academically at risk, or who have been subject to
8 disciplinary actions due to behavioral problems. These students
9 have very different learning needs, and providing instruction to
10 these students can be difficult for school districts. The
11 legislature intends to create additional options for the education
12 of children who are likely to be suspended, expelled, or who are
13 exhibiting poor academic performance or behavioral problems.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter
15 28A.150 RCW to read as follows:

16 (1) The board of directors of school districts may contract
17 with alternative educational service providers for eligible
18 students. Alternative educational service providers that the
19 school district may contract with include, but are not limited to:

- 20 (a) Other schools;
21 (b) Alternative education programs not operated by the school
22 district;
23 (c) Education centers;
24 (d) Skill centers;
25 (e) Dropout prevention programs; or
26 (f) Other public or private organizations, excluding sectarian
27 or religious organizations.

28 (2) Eligible students include students who are likely to be
29 expelled or who are enrolled in the school district but have been
30 suspended, are academically at risk, or who have been subject to
31 repeated disciplinary actions due to behavioral problems.

32 (3) If a school district board of directors chooses to
33 initiate specialized programs for students at risk of expulsion or
34 who are failing academically by contracting out with alternative

1 educational service providers identified in subsection (1) of this
2 section, the school district board of directors and the
3 organization must specify the specific learning standards that
4 students are expected to achieve. Placement of the student shall
5 be jointly determined by the school district, the student's parent
6 or legal guardian, and the alternative educational service
7 provider.

8 (4) For the purpose of this section, the superintendent of
9 public instruction shall adopt rules to permit students to reenter
10 at the grade level appropriate to the student's ability. Students
11 who are sixteen years of age or older may take the GED test.

12 (5) The board of directors of school districts may require
13 that students who would otherwise be suspended or expelled attend
14 schools or programs listed in subsection (1) of this section as a
15 condition of continued enrollment in the school district.

16 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28A.205.020 and 1993 c 211 s 2 are each amended
17 to read as follows:

18 Only eligible common school dropouts shall be enrolled in a
19 certified education center for reimbursement by the superintendent
20 of public instruction as provided in RCW 28A.205.040. ~~((No))~~ A
21 person ~~((shall be considered))~~ is not an eligible common school
22 dropout ~~((who))~~ if: (1) The person has completed high school, (2)
23 ~~((who))~~ the person has not reached his or her ~~((thirteenth))~~
24 twelfth birthday or has passed his or her twentieth birthday,
25 ~~((or))~~ (3) the person shows proficiency beyond the high school
26 level in a test approved by the superintendent of public
27 instruction to be given as part of the initial diagnostic
28 procedure, or (4) ~~((until))~~ less than one month has passed after
29 ~~((he or she))~~ the person has dropped out of any common school and
30 the education center has not received written verification from a
31 school official of the common school last attended in this state
32 that ~~((such))~~ the person is no longer in attendance at ~~((such))~~ the
33 school ~~((, unless such center has been requested to admit such~~
34 person by written communication of)). A person is an eligible
35 common school dropout even if one month has not passed since the
36 person dropped out if the board of directors or its designee, of
37 that common school, ~~((or unless such))~~ requests the center to admit

1 the person because the person has dropped out or because the person
2 is unable to attend a particular common school because of
3 disciplinary reasons, including suspension and/or expulsion
4 ((therefrom)). The fact that any person may be subject to RCW
5 28A.225.010 through 28A.225.150, 28A.200.010, and 28A.200.020 shall
6 not affect his or her qualifications as an eligible common school
7 dropout under this chapter.

8 **Sec. 4.** RCW 28A.205.080 and 1993 c 211 s 7 are each amended
9 to read as follows:

10 The legislature recognizes that education centers provide a
11 necessary and effective service for students who have dropped out
12 of common school programs. Education centers have demonstrated
13 success in preparing such youth for productive roles in society and
14 are an integral part of the state's program to address the needs of
15 students who have dropped out of school. The superintendent of
16 public instruction shall distribute funds, consistent with
17 legislative appropriations, allocated specifically for education
18 centers in accord with chapter 28A.205 RCW. The legislature
19 encourages school districts to explore cooperation with education
20 centers pursuant to section 2 of this act.-

21 Correct the title.

EFFECT: The striking amendment clarifies that eligible students are enrolled students in the school district who are at risk of being expelled and losing their enrolled status. Language in the new section regarding expelled students is removed. The subsection that provided funding for expelled students is also removed since students are apportioned funding as long as they are enrolled in the school district. The null and void clause is removed.