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HOUSE BILL 2037

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State of Washington

55th Legislature

1997 Regular Session

By Representatives Gombosky, Veloria, Kastama, Wolfe, Carrell, Dunshee, Cooper, Murray, Quall, Lantz, Chopp, Mason, Kessler, Keiser, Blalock, Conway, Cole, Costa, Anderson and Doumit

Read first time 02/18/97. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to voluntary community service; adding new sections  
2 to chapter 28A.230 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the education of  
5 our children must include not only academic and technical skills and  
6 knowledge, but also the development of character and an understanding  
7 of our common responsibilities as members of our society and democracy.  
8 One method for building character and teaching responsibility in our  
9 students is to encourage them to volunteer in community social,  
10 governmental, and educational organizations. Increasing the level of  
11 student volunteerism will strengthen the relationship between schools  
12 and communities, expand instructional effectiveness, strengthen the  
13 bonds between young people and adults, and provide enriching, rewarding  
14 experiences for students.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.230  
16 RCW to read as follows:

17 Every high school in the state is encouraged to offer annually the  
18 opportunity for students to volunteer their services to community

1 social and educational organizations. Community social and educational  
2 organizations include hospitals, nursing homes, food banks, day care  
3 organizations, state and local government offices, and other  
4 organizations that provide social, health, educational, and  
5 governmental services.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.230  
7 RCW to read as follows:

8 (1) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall  
9 prepare guidelines for use by schools in programs involving student  
10 volunteer service in the community.

11 (2) At a minimum, the guidelines must include information of  
12 assistance to schools in the following areas:

13 (a) If a school chooses to offer opportunities for volunteer  
14 activity, whether volunteer activity should be discretionary on the  
15 part of the individual student, a noncredit requirement for graduation,  
16 or count as course credit toward graduation;

17 (b) Requirements for volunteer service to count as credit toward  
18 graduation;

19 (c) Certificated endorsement requirements, if any, of supervisory  
20 educators or others;

21 (d) The respective responsibilities of a school and its community  
22 contacts, including supervision of a student volunteer;

23 (e) Liability issues;

24 (f) Scheduling; and

25 (g) Transportation.

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