

---

**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2955**

---

**State of Washington                      55th Legislature                      1998 Regular Session**

**By** House Committee on Education (originally sponsored by Representatives Schoesler, Sterk, Johnson, Mulliken, Bush, Hickel and Quall)

Read first time 02/05/98. Referred to Committee on .

1            AN ACT Relating to procedures for annexation of school district  
2 property; amending RCW 28A.315.250; and creating a new section.

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

4            **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.315.250 and 1997 c 47 s 1 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6            (1) Each incorporated city or town in the state shall be comprised  
7 in one school district: PROVIDED, That nothing in this section shall  
8 be construed: ~~((+1))~~ (a) To prevent the extension of the boundaries  
9 of a school district beyond the limits of the city or town contained  
10 therein, or ~~((+2))~~ (b) to prevent the inclusion of two or more  
11 incorporated cities or towns in a single school district, or ~~((+3))~~  
12 (c) to change or disturb the boundaries of any school district  
13 organized prior to the incorporation of any city or town, except as  
14 hereafter in this section provided.

15            (2) In case all or any part of a school district that operates a  
16 school or schools on one site only or operates elementary schools only  
17 on two or more sites is included in ~~((an))~~ any incorporated city or  
18 town through the extension of the limits of such city or town in the  
19 manner provided by law, the regional committee may, in its discretion,

1 prepare a proposal for transfer of any part or all of the territory so  
2 included to the school district containing the city or town and,  
3 whenever a part of a district so included contains a school building of  
4 the district, for the disposition of any part or all of the remaining  
5 territory of the district.

6 (3) In case of the extension of the limits of a city with a  
7 population of less than three thousand persons or a town to include  
8 territory lying in a school district that operates on more than one  
9 site one or more elementary schools and one or more junior high schools  
10 or high schools, the regional committee may, in its discretion, prepare  
11 a proposal or proposals for annexation to the school district in which  
12 the said city or town is located any part or all of the territory  
13 aforesaid which has been included in the said city or town and for  
14 annexation to the school district in which the said city or town is  
15 located or to some other school district or districts any part or all  
16 of the remaining territory of the school district affected by extension  
17 of the limits of the said city or town: PROVIDED, That where no school  
18 or school site is located within the territory annexed to the city with  
19 a population of less than three thousand persons or the town and not  
20 less than seventy-five percent of the registered voters residing within  
21 the annexed territory present a petition in writing for annexation and  
22 transfer of said territory to the school district in which the said  
23 city or town is located, the educational service district  
24 superintendent shall declare the territory so included to be a part of  
25 the school district containing said city or town: PROVIDED FURTHER,  
26 That territory approved for annexation to ((a)) any city or town by  
27 vote of the ((electors)) voters residing therein prior to January 12,  
28 1953, shall not be subject to the provisions herein respecting  
29 annexation to a school district or school districts: AND PROVIDED  
30 FURTHER, That the provisions and procedural requirements of this  
31 chapter as now or hereafter amended not in conflict with or  
32 inconsistent with the provisions hereinabove in this section stated  
33 shall apply in the case of any proposal or proposals ((+1)) (a) for  
34 the alteration of the boundaries of school districts through and by  
35 means of annexation of territory as aforesaid, and ((+2)) (b) for the  
36 adjustment of the assets and liabilities of the school districts  
37 involved or affected thereby.

38 (4) In case of the incorporation of ((a)) any city or town  
39 containing territory lying in two or more school districts or of the

1 uniting of two or more cities or towns not located in the same school  
2 district, the educational service district superintendent, except where  
3 the incorporation or consolidation would affect a district or districts  
4 of the first class, shall: ~~((+1))~~ (a) Order and declare to be  
5 established in each such case a single school district comprising all  
6 of the school districts involved, and ~~((+2))~~ (b) designate each such  
7 district by name and by a number different from that of any other  
8 district in existence in the county.

9 (5) The educational service district superintendent shall fix as  
10 the effective date of any declaration or order required under this  
11 section a date no later than the first day of September next succeeding  
12 the date of the issuance of such declaration or order.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The state board of education shall study the  
14 existing laws and rules on organizing and changing school district  
15 boundaries and shall recommend to the education committees of the  
16 legislature comprehensive legislation modernizing laws on reorganizing  
17 school district boundaries to make them more understandable, more  
18 efficient, more consistent, and more equitable. The board is  
19 encouraged to seek input from many different persons, organizations,  
20 and viewpoints, hold public hearings, and seek consensus where  
21 possible. The report and recommendations are due September 1, 1998.

--- END ---