

SENATE BILL 6688

State of Washington 55th Legislature 1998 Regular Session

By Senators Johnson, Benton, Strannigan, McAuliffe, Wood, Stevens, Morton, Anderson, Rossi, Hale, Oke, McCaslin, Winsley, McDonald, Schow, Hochstatter, Long, Swecker, Sellar, West, Deccio, Snyder, Loveland, Bauer, Fairley, Fraser, B. Sheldon, Prentice, Rasmussen, Spanel, Thibaudeau, Patterson, Kohl, Haugen and Jacobsen

Read first time 01/27/98. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to reducing class size in elementary schools;
2 amending 1997 c 149 s 502 (uncodified); amending 1997 c 454 s 503
3 (uncodified); and making appropriations.

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

5 Sec. 1. 1997 c 149 s 502 (uncodified) is each amended to read as
6 follows:

7 FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION--FOR GENERAL APPORTIONMENT
8 (BASIC EDUCATION)

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Rows include General Fund Appropriation for FY 1998, FY 1999, and a TOTAL APPROPRIATION row.

14 The appropriations in this section are subject to the following
15 conditions and limitations:

16 (1) The appropriation for fiscal year 1998 includes such funds as
17 are necessary for the remaining months of the 1996-97 school year.

18 (2) Allocations for certificated staff salaries for the 1997-98 and
19 1998-99 school years shall be determined using formula-generated staff

1 units calculated pursuant to this subsection. Staff allocations for
2 small school enrollments in (d) through (f) of this subsection shall be
3 reduced for vocational full-time equivalent enrollments. Staff
4 allocations for small school enrollments in grades K-6 shall be the
5 greater of that generated under (a) of this subsection, or under (d)
6 and (e) of this subsection. Certificated staffing allocations shall be
7 as follows:

8 (a) On the basis of each 1,000 average annual full-time equivalent
9 enrollments, excluding full-time equivalent enrollment otherwise
10 recognized for certificated staff unit allocations under (c) through
11 (f) of this subsection:

12 (i) Four certificated administrative staff units per thousand full-
13 time equivalent students in grades K-12;

14 (ii) 49 certificated instructional staff units per thousand full-
15 time equivalent students in grades K-3;

16 (iii) For the 1997-98 school year, an additional 5.3 certificated
17 instructional staff units for grades K-3. Any funds allocated for
18 these additional certificated units shall not be considered as basic
19 education funding;

20 (A) Funds provided under this subsection (2)(a)(iii) in excess of
21 the amount required to maintain the statutory minimum ratio established
22 under RCW 28A.150.260(2)(b) shall be allocated only if the district
23 documents an actual ratio equal to or greater than 54.3 certificated
24 instructional staff per thousand full-time equivalent students in
25 grades K-3. For any school district documenting a lower certificated
26 instructional staff ratio, the allocation shall be based on the
27 district's actual grades K-3 certificated instructional staff ratio
28 achieved in that school year, or the statutory minimum ratio
29 established under RCW 28A.150.260(2)(b), if greater;

30 (B) Districts at or above 51.0 certificated instructional staff per
31 one thousand full-time equivalent students in grades K-3 may dedicate
32 up to 1.3 of the 54.3 funding ratio to employ additional classified
33 instructional assistants assigned to basic education classrooms in
34 grades K-3. For purposes of documenting a district's staff ratio under
35 this section, funds used by the district to employ additional
36 classified instructional assistants shall be converted to a
37 certificated staff equivalent and added to the district's actual
38 certificated instructional staff ratio. Additional classified

1 instructional assistants, for the purposes of this subsection, shall be
2 determined using the 1989-90 school year as the base year;

3 (C) Any district maintaining a ratio equal to or greater than 54.3
4 certificated instructional staff per thousand full-time equivalent
5 students in grades K-3 may use allocations generated under this
6 subsection (2)(a)(iii) in excess of that required to maintain the
7 minimum ratio established under RCW 28A.150.260(2)(b) to employ
8 additional basic education certificated instructional staff or
9 classified instructional assistants in grades 4-6. Funds allocated
10 under this subsection (2)(a)(iii) shall only be expended to reduce
11 class size in grades K-6. No more than 1.3 of the certificated
12 instructional funding ratio amount may be expended for provision of
13 classified instructional assistants; ((and))

14 (iv) For the 1997-98 school year, forty-six certificated
15 instructional staff units per thousand full-time equivalent students in
16 grades 4-12;

17 (v) For the 1998-99 school year, an additional 5.3 certificated
18 instructional staff units for grades K-5. Any funds allocated for
19 these additional certificated units shall not be considered as basic
20 education funding.

21 (A) Funds provided under this subsection (2)(a)(v) in excess of the
22 amount required to maintain the statutory minimum ratio established
23 under RCW 28A.150.260(2)(b) shall be allocated only if the district
24 documents an actual ratio equal to or greater than 54.3 certificated
25 instructional staff per thousand full-time equivalent students in
26 grades K-5. For any school district documenting a lower certificated
27 instructional staff ratio, the allocation shall be based on the
28 district's actual grades K-5 certificated instructional staff ratio
29 achieved in that school year, or the statutory minimum ratio
30 established under RCW 28A.150.260(2)(b), if greater;

31 (B) Districts at or above 51.0 certificated instructional staff per
32 one thousand full-time equivalent students in grades K-5 may dedicate
33 up to 1.3 of the 54.3 funding ratio to employ additional classified
34 instructional assistants assigned to basic education classrooms in
35 grades K-5. For purposes of documenting a district's staff ratio under
36 this section, funds used by a district to employ additional classified
37 instructional assistants shall be converted to a certificated staff
38 equivalent and added to the district's actual certificated
39 instructional staff ratio. Additional classified instructional

1 assistants for the purposes of this subsection shall be determined
2 using the 1997-98 school year as the base year;

3 (C) It is intended that the additional funds provided under this
4 subsection (2)(a)(v) for certificated instructional staff be utilized
5 by school districts to reduce class size in grades K-5. This formula
6 allocates up to 1 certificated instructional staff per 18.42 full-time
7 equivalent students, and it is intended that school districts allocate
8 a substantial portion of this ratio for acquisition of teachers to keep
9 class sizes as small as possible. Districts may utilize the additional
10 certificated instructional staff in any of the grades K-5, however,
11 districts are encouraged to keep K-3 class sizes as low as possible;
12 and

13 (vi) For the 1998-99 school year, forty-six certificated
14 instructional staff units per thousand full-time equivalent students in
15 grades 6-12;

16 (b) For school districts with a minimum enrollment of 250 full-time
17 equivalent students whose full-time equivalent student enrollment count
18 in a given month exceeds the first of the month full-time equivalent
19 enrollment count by 5 percent, an additional state allocation of 110
20 percent of the share that such increased enrollment would have
21 generated had such additional full-time equivalent students been
22 included in the normal enrollment count for that particular month;

23 (c) On the basis of full-time equivalent enrollment in:

24 (i) Vocational education programs approved by the superintendent of
25 public instruction, a maximum of 0.92 certificated instructional staff
26 units and 0.08 certificated administrative staff units for each 18.3
27 full-time equivalent vocational students. Beginning with the 1998-99
28 school year, districts documenting staffing ratios of less than 1
29 certificated staff per 18.3 students shall be allocated the greater of
30 the total ratio in subsections (2)(a)(i) and (iv) of this section or
31 the actual documented ratio;

32 (ii) Skills center programs approved by the superintendent of
33 public instruction, 0.92 certificated instructional staff units and
34 0.08 certificated administrative units for each 16.67 full-time
35 equivalent vocational students;

36 (iii) Indirect cost charges, as defined by the superintendent of
37 public instruction, to vocational-secondary programs shall not exceed
38 10 percent; and

1 (iv) Vocational full-time equivalent enrollment shall be reported
2 on the same monthly basis as the enrollment for students eligible for
3 basic support, and payments shall be adjusted for reported vocational
4 enrollments on the same monthly basis as those adjustments for
5 enrollment for students eligible for basic support.

6 (d) For districts enrolling not more than twenty-five average
7 annual full-time equivalent students in grades K-8, and for small
8 school plants within any school district which have been judged to be
9 remote and necessary by the state board of education and enroll not
10 more than twenty-five average annual full-time equivalent students in
11 grades K-8:

12 (i) For those enrolling no students in grades 7 and 8, 1.76
13 certificated instructional staff units and 0.24 certificated
14 administrative staff units for enrollment of not more than five
15 students, plus one-twentieth of a certificated instructional staff unit
16 for each additional student enrolled; and

17 (ii) For those enrolling students in grades 7 or 8, 1.68
18 certificated instructional staff units and 0.32 certificated
19 administrative staff units for enrollment of not more than five
20 students, plus one-tenth of a certificated instructional staff unit for
21 each additional student enrolled;

22 (e) For specified enrollments in districts enrolling more than
23 twenty-five but not more than one hundred average annual full-time
24 equivalent students in grades K-8, and for small school plants within
25 any school district which enroll more than twenty-five average annual
26 full-time equivalent students in grades K-8 and have been judged to be
27 remote and necessary by the state board of education:

28 (i) For enrollment of up to sixty annual average full-time
29 equivalent students in grades K-6, 2.76 certificated instructional
30 staff units and 0.24 certificated administrative staff units; and

31 (ii) For enrollment of up to twenty annual average full-time
32 equivalent students in grades 7 and 8, 0.92 certificated instructional
33 staff units and 0.08 certificated administrative staff units;

34 (f) For districts operating no more than two high schools with
35 enrollments of less than three hundred average annual full-time
36 equivalent students, for enrollment in grades 9-12 in each such school,
37 other than alternative schools:

38 (i) For remote and necessary schools enrolling students in any
39 grades 9-12 but no more than twenty-five average annual full-time

1 equivalent students in grades K-12, four and one-half certificated
2 instructional staff units and one-quarter of a certificated
3 administrative staff unit;

4 (ii) For all other small high schools under this subsection, nine
5 certificated instructional staff units and one-half of a certificated
6 administrative staff unit for the first sixty average annual full time
7 equivalent students, and additional staff units based on a ratio of
8 0.8732 certificated instructional staff units and 0.1268 certificated
9 administrative staff units per each additional forty-three and one-half
10 average annual full time equivalent students.

11 Units calculated under (f)(ii) of this subsection shall be reduced
12 by certificated staff units at the rate of forty-six certificated
13 instructional staff units and four certificated administrative staff
14 units per thousand vocational full-time equivalent students.

15 (g) For each nonhigh school district having an enrollment of more
16 than seventy annual average full-time equivalent students and less than
17 one hundred eighty students, operating a grades K-8 program or a grades
18 1-8 program, an additional one-half of a certificated instructional
19 staff unit; and

20 (h) For each nonhigh school district having an enrollment of more
21 than fifty annual average full-time equivalent students and less than
22 one hundred eighty students, operating a grades K-6 program or a grades
23 1-6 program, an additional one-half of a certificated instructional
24 staff unit.

25 (3) Allocations for classified salaries for the 1997-98 and 1998-99
26 school years shall be calculated using formula-generated classified
27 staff units determined as follows:

28 (a) For enrollments generating certificated staff unit allocations
29 under subsection (2) (d) through (h) of this section, one classified
30 staff unit for each three certificated staff units allocated under such
31 subsections;

32 (b) For all other enrollment in grades K-12, including vocational
33 full-time equivalent enrollments, one classified staff unit for each
34 sixty average annual full-time equivalent students; and

35 (c) For each nonhigh school district with an enrollment of more
36 than fifty annual average full-time equivalent students and less than
37 one hundred eighty students, an additional one-half of a classified
38 staff unit.

1 (4) Fringe benefit allocations shall be calculated at a rate of
2 20.22 percent in the 1997-98 and 1998-99 school years for certificated
3 salary allocations provided under subsection (2) of this section, and
4 a rate of 18.65 percent in the 1997-98 and 1998-99 school years for
5 classified salary allocations provided under subsection (3) of this
6 section.

7 (5) Insurance benefit allocations shall be calculated at the
8 maintenance rate specified in section 504(2) of this act, based on the
9 number of benefit units determined as follows:

10 (a) The number of certificated staff units determined in subsection
11 (2) of this section; and

12 (b) The number of classified staff units determined in subsection
13 (3) of this section multiplied by 1.152. This factor is intended to
14 adjust allocations so that, for the purposes of distributing insurance
15 benefits, full-time equivalent classified employees may be calculated
16 on the basis of 1440 hours of work per year, with no individual
17 employee counted as more than one full-time equivalent.

18 (6)(a) For nonemployee-related costs associated with each
19 certificated staff unit allocated under subsection (2) (a), (b), and
20 (d) through (h) of this section, there shall be provided a maximum of
21 \$7,950 per certificated staff unit in the 1997-98 school year and a
22 maximum of \$8,165 per certificated staff unit in the 1998-99 school
23 year.

24 (b) For nonemployee-related costs associated with each vocational
25 certificated staff unit allocated under subsection (2)(c) of this
26 section, there shall be provided a maximum of \$15,147 per certificated
27 staff unit in the 1997-98 school year and a maximum of \$15,556 per
28 certificated staff unit in the 1998-99 school year.

29 (7) Allocations for substitute costs for classroom teachers shall
30 be distributed at a maintenance rate of \$354.64 per allocated classroom
31 teachers exclusive of salary increase amounts provided in section 504
32 of this act. Solely for the purposes of this subsection, allocated
33 classroom teachers shall be equal to the number of certificated
34 instructional staff units allocated under subsection (2) of this
35 section, multiplied by the ratio between the number of actual basic
36 education certificated teachers and the number of actual basic
37 education certificated instructional staff reported state-wide for the
38 1996-97 school year.

1 (8) Any school district board of directors may petition the
2 superintendent of public instruction by submission of a resolution
3 adopted in a public meeting to reduce or delay any portion of its basic
4 education allocation for any school year. The superintendent of public
5 instruction shall approve such reduction or delay if it does not impair
6 the district's financial condition. Any delay shall not be for more
7 than two school years. Any reduction or delay shall have no impact on
8 levy authority pursuant to RCW 84.52.0531 and local effort assistance
9 pursuant to chapter 28A.500 RCW.

10 (9) The superintendent may distribute a maximum of \$6,124,000
11 outside the basic education formula during fiscal years 1998 and 1999
12 as follows:

13 (a) For fire protection for school districts located in a fire
14 protection district as now or hereafter established pursuant to chapter
15 52.04 RCW, a maximum of \$447,000 may be expended in fiscal year 1998
16 and a maximum of \$459,000 may be expended in fiscal year 1999;

17 (b) For summer vocational programs at skills centers, a maximum of
18 \$1,948,000 may be expended each fiscal year;

19 (c) A maximum of \$321,000 may be expended for school district
20 emergencies; and

21 (d) A maximum of \$500,000 per fiscal year may be expended for
22 programs providing skills training for secondary students who are
23 enrolled in extended day school-to-work programs, as approved by the
24 superintendent of public instruction. The funds shall be allocated at
25 a rate not to exceed \$500 per full-time equivalent student enrolled in
26 those programs.

27 (10) For the purposes of RCW 84.52.0531, the increase per full-time
28 equivalent student in state basic education appropriations provided
29 under this act, including appropriations for salary and benefits
30 increases, is 2.5 percent from the 1996-97 school year to the 1997-98
31 school year, and 1.1 percent from the 1997-98 school year to the
32 1998-99 school year.

33 (11) If two or more school districts consolidate and each district
34 was receiving additional basic education formula staff units pursuant
35 to subsection (2) (b) through (h) of this section, the following shall
36 apply:

37 (a) For three school years following consolidation, the number of
38 basic education formula staff units shall not be less than the number

1 of basic education formula staff units received by the districts in the
2 school year prior to the consolidation; and

3 (b) For the fourth through eighth school years following
4 consolidation, the difference between the basic education formula staff
5 units received by the districts for the school year prior to
6 consolidation and the basic education formula staff units after
7 consolidation pursuant to subsection (2) (a) through (h) of this
8 section shall be reduced in increments of twenty percent per year.

9 **Sec. 2.** 1997 c 454 s 503 (uncodified) is each amended to read as
10 follows:

11 **FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION--FOR SCHOOL EMPLOYEE**
12 **COMPENSATION ADJUSTMENTS**

13	General Fund Appropriation (FY 1998) \$	79,966,000
14	General Fund Appropriation (FY 1999) \$	((116,310,000))
15			<u>117,835,000</u>
16	TOTAL APPROPRIATION \$	((196,276,000))
17			<u>197,801,000</u>

18 The appropriations in this section are subject to the following
19 conditions and limitations:

20 (1) \$((~~176,525,000~~)) 177,813,000 is provided for a cost of living
21 adjustment of 3.0 percent effective September 1, 1997, for state
22 formula staff units. The appropriations include associated incremental
23 fringe benefit allocations at rates of 19.58 percent for certificated
24 staff and 15.15 percent for classified staff.

25 (a) The appropriations in this section include the increased
26 portion of salaries and incremental fringe benefits for all relevant
27 state-funded school programs in part V of this act. Salary adjustments
28 for state employees in the office of superintendent of public
29 instruction and the education reform program are provided in part VII
30 of this act. Increases for general apportionment (basic education) are
31 based on the salary allocation schedules and methodology in section 502
32 of this act. Increases for special education result from increases in
33 each district's basic education allocation per student. Increases for
34 educational service districts and institutional education programs are
35 determined by the superintendent of public instruction using the
36 methodology for general apportionment salaries and benefits in section
37 502 of this act.

1 (b) The appropriations in this section provide salary increase and
2 incremental fringe benefit allocations based on formula adjustments as
3 follows:

4 (i) For pupil transportation, an increase of \$0.60 per weighted
5 pupil-mile for the 1997-98 school year and maintained for the 1998-99
6 school year;

7 (ii) For education of highly capable students, an increase of \$6.81
8 per formula student for the 1997-98 school year and maintained for the
9 1998-99 school year; and

10 (iii) For transitional bilingual education, an increase of \$17.69
11 per eligible bilingual student for the 1997-98 school year and
12 maintained for the 1998-99 school year; and

13 (iv) For learning assistance, an increase of \$8.74 per entitlement
14 unit for the 1997-98 school year and maintained for the 1998-99 school
15 year.

16 (c) The appropriations in this section include \$912,000 for salary
17 increase adjustments for substitute teachers at a rate of \$10.64 per
18 unit in the 1997-98 school year and maintained in the 1998-99 school
19 year.

20 (2) \$((~~19,751,000~~)) 19,988,000 is provided for adjustments to
21 insurance benefit allocations. The maintenance rate for insurance
22 benefit allocations is \$314.51 per month for the 1997-98 and 1998-99
23 school years. The appropriations in this section provide increases of
24 \$2.83 per month for the 1997-98 school year and \$18.41 per month for
25 the 1998-99 school year at the following rates:

26 (a) For pupil transportation, an increase of \$0.03 per weighted
27 pupil-mile for the 1997-98 school year and \$0.19 for the 1998-99 school
28 year;

29 (b) For education of highly capable students, an increase of \$0.20
30 per formula student for the 1997-98 school year and \$1.35 for the 1998-
31 99 school year;

32 (c) For transitional bilingual education, an increase of \$.46 per
33 eligible bilingual student for the 1997-98 school year and \$3.44 for
34 the 1998-99 school year; and

35 (d) For learning assistance, an increase of \$.36 per funded unit
36 for the 1997-98 school year and \$2.70 for the 1998-99 school year.

37 (3) The rates specified in this section are subject to revision
38 each year by the legislature.

1 (4)((~~a~~)) For the 1997-98 school year, the superintendent shall
2 prepare a report showing the allowable derived base salary for
3 certificated instructional staff in accordance with RCW 28A.400.200 and
4 LEAP Document 12D, and the actual derived base salary paid by each
5 school district as shown on the S-275 report and shall make the report
6 available to the fiscal committees of the legislature no later than
7 February 15, 1998.

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