

HOUSE BILL ANALYSIS

HB 2269

Brief Description: Establishing the professional development program.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Professional Development Program activities are to be conducted on days outside the normal school calendar.
- Professional Development Program funding is not part of basic education.

Background:

School districts and the state have chosen to provide extra time for instructional staff to plan curricula, receive training, and pursue other professional improvements. This activity is commonly termed "in-service training" and a state-funded version was known as "SLIG days".

Salary stipends for state, basic education formula, certificated instructional staff for in-service training are provided as supplemental contracts, which are exceptions to the salary controls established by the Legislature in RCW 28A.400.20. The details of the basic education salary allocations are provided in the state-wide salary allocation schedule in the Appropriations Act.

Current statute specifies that supplemental contracts are not part of basic education, are for one year and are not to be considered part of the basic education obligation of the state.

In-service training is sometimes provided on days school is in session and substitute teachers are used to replace the instructional staff participating in the training.

Summary:

An in-service program of professional development is established to improve the skills of instructional staff to educate students consistent with the learning requirements necessary to meet the standards of the state essential academic learning requirements.

The professional development program is to be provided outside the normal "classroom" school year.

State funds provided for salary for the program are not part of the salaries considered on the state salary schedule for basic education and the program is not to be considered as within the state's obligation for funding basic education.

The program terminates at the end of the coming biennium.

Appropriation: None.

Effective Date: July 1, 1999.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.