
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2957

State of Washington

56th Legislature

2000 Regular Session

By House Committee on Education (originally sponsored by Representatives Haigh, Talcott, Quall, Miloscia, D. Schmidt, Wensman, Rockefeller, Conway, Lantz and Santos)

Read first time 02/03/2000. Referred to Committee on .

1 AN ACT Relating to principal assessment and support; creating new
2 sections; making an appropriation; and providing an expiration date.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that high quality
5 leadership by a well-trained principal is critical to the success of
6 the teachers and students in the schools. School districts are having
7 increasing difficulty in finding and keeping quality principals. The
8 legislature recognizes it has been estimated that up to half of the
9 principals working in Washington's public schools today may retire
10 within five years. Accordingly, the legislature declares the need is
11 urgent to recruit and retain highly capable principals to lead our
12 public schools through the tremendous challenges of the future.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The superintendent of public instruction
14 shall contract with a qualified independent organization to implement
15 the principal competency assessment and support program. The purposes
16 of the program are to assist new public school principals and principal
17 candidates in developing individualized professional growth plans and
18 to support new principals and principal candidates through

1 implementation of the plan and achievement of professional
2 certification.

3 (2) The principal competency assessment and support program shall
4 consist of elements including, but not limited to, the following:

5 (a) A competency-based assessment measuring a new principal's or
6 principal candidate's leadership and managerial skills;

7 (b) Development of an individualized professional growth plan for
8 a new principal or principal candidate; and

9 (c) Participation of a mentor principal who works over a period of
10 between one and three years with the new principal or principal
11 candidate to help him or her build the skills identified as critical to
12 the success of the professional growth plan.

13 (3) The competencies assessed pursuant to subsection (2)(a) of this
14 section shall be those which have been determined by current research
15 to be essential in school leadership that promotes student success.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The sum of two hundred fifty thousand
17 dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated from
18 the general fund to the superintendent of public instruction for the
19 fiscal year ending June 30, 2001, to carry out the purposes of this
20 act.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act expires July 1, 2006.

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