
HOUSE BILL 2957

State of Washington

56th Legislature

2000 Regular Session

By Representatives Haigh, Talcott, Quall, Miloscia, D. Schmidt, Wensman, Rockefeller, Conway, Lantz and Santos

Read first time 01/25/2000. Referred to Committee on Education.

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

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

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

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

1 to support new principals and principal candidates through
2 implementation of the plan and achievement of professional
3 certification.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** This act is necessary for the immediate
24 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
25 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
26 immediately.

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