
BILL REQUEST - CODE REVISER'S OFFICE

BILL REQ. #: H-4767.1/02

ATTY/TYPIST: SCG:seg

BRIEF DESCRIPTION:

2 **SSB 6598** - H COMM AMD
3 By Committee on Appropriations

4

5 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
6 following:

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) Effective, integrated natural science
8 and wildlife education programs provide the foundation for the
9 development of literate children and adults, setting the stage for
10 lifelong learning. Furthermore, integrated natural science and
11 wildlife education offers many opportunities for achieving excellence
12 in our schools. Well-designed programs, integrated with the state's
13 essential academic learning requirements, can contribute to the state's
14 educational reform goals.

15 (2) Washington is fortunate to have institutions and programs that
16 currently provide quality natural science and wildlife education and
17 teacher training that is already integrated with the state's essential
18 academic learning requirements.

19 (3) The legislature intends to further the development of natural
20 science and wildlife education by establishing a competitive grant
21 program, funded through state moneys to the extent those moneys are
22 appropriated, for proven natural science and wildlife education
23 programs that are fully integrated with the state's essential academic
24 learning requirements.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.300
26 RCW to read as follows:

27 The Washington natural science and wildlife education partnership
28 fund is hereby created to provide natural science and wildlife
29 education opportunities for teachers and students to help achieve the
30 highest quality of excellence in education through compliance with the
31 essential academic learning requirements. The fund shall be in the
32 custody of the state treasurer. Revenues to the fund shall consist of
33 appropriations made by the legislature. Expenditures from the fund
34 shall be made by grants by the superintendent of public instruction.
35 Only the superintendent of public instruction or the superintendent's

1 designee may authorize expenditures from the fund. The fund is subject
2 to the allotment procedures under chapter 43.88 RCW, but an
3 appropriation is not required for expenditures.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.300
5 RCW to read as follows:

6 (1) The natural science and wildlife education grant program is
7 hereby created, subject to the availability of moneys appropriated by
8 the legislature into the natural science and wildlife education
9 partnership fund. The program is created to promote proven natural
10 science and wildlife education programs that are fully integrated with
11 the state's essential academic learning requirements.

12 (2) The superintendent of public instruction shall establish and
13 publish funding criteria for natural science and wildlife education
14 grants. These criteria shall be based on compliance with the essential
15 academic learning requirements. The criteria must also include natural
16 science and wildlife education programs with one or more of the
17 following features:

18 (a) Methods that encourage critical thinking;

19 (b) Integrated, interdisciplinary approaches to natural science and
20 wildlife conservation issues;

21 (c) Programs that target underserved, disadvantaged, and
22 multicultural populations;

23 (d) Programs that reach out to schools across the state that would
24 otherwise not have access to specialized natural science or wildlife
25 conservation programs.

26 (3) Eligible uses of grants include, but are not limited to:

27 (a) Continuing in-service and preservice training for educators
28 with materials specifically developed to enable educators to teach
29 integrated essential academic learning requirements in a compelling and
30 effective manner;

31 (b) Proven, innovative programs that teach integrated essential
32 academic learning requirements, especially those that emphasize natural
33 science and wildlife conservation and meet the needs of varying
34 learning styles; and

35 (c) Support and equipment needed for the implementation of the
36 programs in this section.

1 (4) Funds may only be disbursed to nonprofit organizations, as
2 defined by the internal revenue service, that can provide matching
3 funds or in-kind services.

4 (5) Funds may not be disbursed for any program that promotes or
5 attempts to promote partisan or political activities."

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