
HOUSE BILL 1688

State of Washington

57th Legislature

2001 Regular Session

By Representatives Pflug, Quall, Talcott, McDermott, Anderson, Jarrett, Cairnes, Keiser, Ericksen, Edwards, Conway and Santos

Read first time 01/31/2001. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to providing a housing supplement to the salaries
2 of certain teachers and instructional staff; and creating new sections.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** It is the intent of the legislature to
5 ensure that the common schools have adequate numbers of classroom
6 teachers and other certificated instructional staff. The legislature
7 finds there are significant disparities in living costs among regions
8 within the state. The legislature finds that the largest component of
9 these disparities is the cost of housing, which is significantly higher
10 in certain areas of the state than in other areas of the state. The
11 legislature finds that the percentage of salary required to procure
12 housing in these areas is significantly greater for classroom teachers
13 and other certificated instructional staff in these areas than in other
14 areas of the state. The legislature further finds that the cost of
15 housing in these areas in relation to salary compensation levels has
16 contributed significantly to hardship among school districts in these
17 areas in ensuring an adequate supply of well-qualified classroom
18 teachers and other certificated instructional staff. Therefore, the
19 legislature finds that there is a need to provide a housing supplement

1 to the salaries of classroom teachers and other certificated
2 instructional staff in areas of the state that are most affected by
3 housing affordability concerns, and intends to provide such a housing
4 supplement for the purposes stated. The legislature further intends
5 that such a housing supplement in any year is subject to funding by the
6 legislature, and that the housing supplement shall not be considered as
7 within the definition of basic education for the purposes of chapter
8 28A.150 RCW.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The Washington state institute for public
10 policy, in consultation with the office of the superintendent of public
11 instruction, shall develop recommendations for a methodology for the
12 state to use to provide supplements to the salaries of certificated
13 instructional staff in common schools, for the purpose of reducing
14 disparities in the purchasing power of salary compensation among
15 different areas of the state and increasing the number of qualified
16 teaching staff in areas with high housing costs.

17 (1) In developing its recommendations, the institute shall
18 consider, but not be limited to:

19 (a) The identification of the most valid and reliable indices of
20 housing affordability from one geographic location in the state to
21 another;

22 (b) The most appropriate means of relating such indices of housing
23 affordability by geographic location to employment in the individual
24 school districts of the state;

25 (c) Alternative options for distributing housing supplements among
26 certificated instructional staff through such an index;

27 (d) Means for allocating funds to school districts for the purpose
28 of providing such housing supplements to certificated instructional
29 staff, in a manner most consistent with the findings and intent of this
30 act;

31 (e) Related issues as found necessary to the development of an
32 efficient and equitable system of providing housing supplements to the
33 salaries of certificated instructional staff.

34 (2) The Washington state institute for public policy shall make a
35 report of its recommendations pursuant to subsection (1) of this

1 section to the governor and the education and fiscal committees of the
2 legislature no later than July 1, 2002.

--- END ---