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HOUSE BILL 2796

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State of Washington

57th Legislature

2002 Regular Session

By Representatives Pflug, Talcott, Lisk, Mulliken, Schindler, Morell, Cairnes and Woods

Read first time 01/28/2002. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to the use of student achievement funds; and  
2 amending RCW 28A.505.210.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.505.210 and 2001 c 3 s 3 (Initiative Measure No.  
5 728) are each amended to read as follows:

6 School districts shall have the authority to decide the best use of  
7 student achievement funds to assist students in meeting and exceeding  
8 the new, higher academic standards in each district consistent with the  
9 provisions of chapter 3, Laws of 2001.

10 (1) Student achievement funds shall be allocated for the following  
11 uses:

12 (a) To reduce class size by hiring certificated elementary  
13 classroom teachers in grades K-4 and paying nonemployee-related costs  
14 associated with those new teachers;

15 (b) To make selected reductions in class size in grades 5-12, such  
16 as small high school writing classes;

17 (c) To provide extended learning opportunities to improve student  
18 academic achievement in grades K-12, including, but not limited to,  
19 extended school year, extended school day, before-and-after-school

1 programs, special tutoring programs, weekend school programs, summer  
2 school, and all-day kindergarten;

3 (d) To provide additional professional development for educators,  
4 including additional paid time for curriculum and lesson redesign and  
5 alignment, training to ensure that instruction is aligned with state  
6 standards and student needs, reimbursement for higher education costs  
7 related to enhancing teaching skills and knowledge, and mentoring  
8 programs to match teachers with skilled, master teachers. The funding  
9 shall not be used for salary increases or additional compensation for  
10 existing teaching duties, but may be used for extended year and  
11 extended day teaching contracts;

12 (e) To provide early assistance for children who need  
13 prekindergarten support in order to be successful in school;

14 (f) To provide housing allowances for nonsupervisory classified and  
15 certificated public school employees as follows:

16 (i) Individual payment of the housing allowance to nonsupervisory  
17 classified and certificated employees is subject to collective  
18 bargaining but shall be paid only to actively employed nonsupervisory  
19 classified and certificated employees; and

20 (ii) The housing allowance shall not be considered as within the  
21 definition of basic education for the purposes of chapter 28A.150 RCW,  
22 nor is it earnable compensation as defined in RCW 41.32.010 or  
23 compensation earnable as defined in RCW 41.40.010; and

24 (g) To provide improvements or additions to school building  
25 facilities which are directly related to the class size reductions and  
26 extended learning opportunities under (a) through (c) of this  
27 subsection.

28 (2) Annually on or before May 1st, the school district board of  
29 directors shall meet at the time and place designated for the purpose  
30 of a public hearing on the proposed use of these funds to improve  
31 student achievement for the coming year. Any person may appear or by  
32 written submission have the opportunity to comment on the proposed plan  
33 for the use of these funds. No later than August 31st, as a part of  
34 the process under RCW 28A.505.060, each school district shall adopt a  
35 plan for the use of these funds for the upcoming school year.  
36 Annually, each school district shall provide to the citizens of their  
37 district a public accounting of the funds made available to the  
38 district during the previous school year under chapter 3, Laws of 2001,  
39 how the funds were used, and the progress the district has made in

1 increasing student achievement, as measured by required state  
2 assessments and other assessments deemed appropriate by the district.  
3 Copies of this report shall be provided to the superintendent of public  
4 instruction and to the academic achievement and accountability  
5 commission.

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