
HOUSE BILL 3011

State of Washington

57th Legislature

2002 Regular Session

By Representatives Fromhold, McIntire and Sommers

Read first time . Referred to Committee on .

1 AN ACT Relating to local effort assistance; amending RCW
2 28A.500.030; creating new sections; 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 the purpose of
5 the local effort assistance program is stated in RCW 28A.500.010 as
6 follows: "The purpose of these funds is to mitigate the effect that
7 above average property tax rates might have on the ability of a school
8 district to raise local revenues to supplement the state's basic
9 program of education. These funds serve to equalize the property tax
10 rates that individual taxpayers would pay for such levies and to
11 provide tax relief to taxpayers in high tax rate school districts."

12 The legislature further finds that changes in state and federal
13 funding that have taken place since the local effort assistance program
14 began in 1989 make it necessary to reexamine the local effort
15 assistance funding formula and to determine whether the purpose of the
16 program is being fulfilled. It is the intent of the legislature to
17 freeze total local effort assistance funding at the calendar year 2003
18 level until the recommendations of the task force created in section 2
19 of this act are considered by the legislature.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The joint task force on local effort
2 assistance is created, to consist of nineteen members:

3 (a) Six members of the house of representatives, three appointed by
4 the speaker of the house of representatives and three appointed by the
5 minority leader;

6 (b) Six members of the senate, three appointed by the majority
7 leader and three appointed by the minority leader;

8 (c) The superintendent of public instruction;

9 (d) A member chosen by the Washington state school directors'
10 association;

11 (e) A member chosen by the Washington association of school
12 administrators;

13 (f) A member chosen by the rural education center;

14 (g) A fiscal officer of an educational service district chosen by
15 the superintendent of public instruction in consultation with the
16 superintendents of the educational service districts; and

17 (h) Two members from school districts with student enrollments
18 greater than twenty thousand, chosen by the office of the
19 superintendent of public instruction.

20 (2) Legislative members of the task force shall be reimbursed for
21 travel expenses as provided in RCW 44.04.120. The staff of the office
22 of superintendent of public instruction, senate committee services, and
23 the office of program research of the house of representatives shall
24 provide support to the task force.

25 (3) The task force shall be cochaired by one senator, chosen by the
26 task force, and one representative, chosen by the task force. The task
27 force shall establish rules of procedure at its first meeting.

28 (4) The task force shall seek input and advice from stakeholders.

29 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The joint task force on local effort
30 assistance shall:

31 (1) Complete a thorough analysis of the history of the local effort
32 assistance program and its impacts, including a thorough examination of
33 the revenues included in the levy base;

34 (2) Determine whether the purpose of the local effort assistance
35 program, as stated in RCW 28A.500.010, is being met under the current
36 allocation formula; and

37 (3) Present its findings and provide recommendations to the
38 legislature by December 1, 2002.

1 **Sec. 4.** RCW 28A.500.030 and 1999 c 317 s 3 are each amended to
2 read as follows:

3 Allocation of state matching funds to eligible districts for local
4 effort assistance shall be determined as follows:

5 (1) Funds raised by the district through maintenance and operation
6 levies shall be matched with state funds using the following ratio of
7 state funds to levy funds:

8 (a) The difference between the district's twelve percent levy rate
9 and the statewide average twelve percent levy rate; to

10 (b) The statewide average twelve percent levy rate.

11 (2) The maximum amount of state matching funds for districts
12 eligible for local effort assistance shall be the district's twelve
13 percent levy amount, multiplied by the following percentage:

14 (a) The difference between the district's twelve percent levy rate
15 and the statewide average twelve percent levy rate; divided by

16 (b) The district's twelve percent levy rate.

17 (3) Allocations and maximum eligibility under this chapter shall be
18 multiplied by the percentage stated in the apportionment section of the
19 omnibus appropriations act. Beginning with calendar year 2004 local
20 effort assistance allocations, the percentage adjustment shall be such
21 that total allocations under this chapter shall not exceed total
22 allocations under this chapter in calendar year 2003.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Sections 1 through 3 of this act expire
24 December 31, 2002.

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