
SENATE BILL 5810

State of Washington 57th Legislature 2001 Regular Session

By Senators Kohl-Welles, Finkbeiner, Kastama, Sheahan and Patterson

Read first time 02/02/2001. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to establishing small personalized schools; adding
2 a new section to chapter 28A.505 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature recognizes that a large and
5 growing body of research supports the premise that all students learn
6 more, perform better, and exhibit more responsible and respectful
7 behavior in schools where they are known personally and as individuals
8 by the adults in the school. In light of this research, school
9 districts are encouraged to create small personalized learning
10 environments using available resources from the student achievement
11 fund, the purpose of which is to improve public education and to
12 achieve higher academic standards.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.505
14 RCW to read as follows:

15 (1) School districts may, consistent with RCW 28A.505.210, spend
16 moneys received from the student achievement fund created in RCW
17 43.135.045 to establish small personalized schools that have the effect
18 of reducing class size and improving student achievement.

1 (2) For the purposes of this section, "small personalized school"
2 means a school with each of the following characteristics:

3 (a) That enrolls no more than two hundred seventy-five students if
4 it is an elementary school, or no more than four hundred forty students
5 if it is a middle, junior high, or high school with three or four grade
6 levels;

7 (b) Where, to the extent possible, every teacher at the school
8 works with every student assigned to the teacher's classroom for a
9 minimum of two consecutive years;

10 (c) That develops and implements a plan for high levels of parental
11 involvement in which parents are directly engaged in supporting their
12 child's learning and in which parents play a significant role in school
13 governance;

14 (d) That develops a governance plan that involves an administrator,
15 teachers, parents and other community members, and, if it is a
16 secondary school, the students;

17 (e) That develops a philosophy and mission that focuses on the
18 personalization of learning and academic and personal success for each
19 student; and

20 (f) That embodies its philosophy and mission in its daily
21 operations and activities.

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