
SENATE BILL 5979

State of Washington 57th Legislature 2001 Regular Session

By Senators Zarelli, Finkbeiner, Hochstatter and Hewitt

Read first time 02/12/2001. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to school safety; adding new sections to chapter
2 28A.300 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 28A.320 RCW; and creating
3 a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.300
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 The legislature finds that establishing a school safety center will
8 provide school districts with: The assistance necessary to create a
9 consistent, comprehensive approach to school safety for every school
10 and every school district; the means to share safety information among
11 school districts; and a process for schools to effectively integrate
12 safe school planning with emergency preparedness personnel, the
13 criminal justice training commission, and local, county, and state law
14 enforcement officers.

15 The safety center shall disseminate successful models of school
16 safety plans and cooperative efforts; provide assistance to schools to
17 establish a comprehensive safe school plan; select models of
18 cooperative efforts that have been proven successful; act as an
19 information dissemination and resource center when an incident occurs

1 in a school district either in Washington or in another state;
2 coordinate activities relating to school safety; review and approve
3 manuals and curricula used for school safety models and training; and
4 develop and maintain a school safety information web site.

5 The school safety center shall be established in the office of the
6 superintendent of public instruction. The superintendent of public
7 instruction shall appoint and participate in a school safety center
8 advisory committee that includes, but is not limited to,
9 representatives of educators, other school staff, administrators, the
10 American society for industrial security, the state criminal justice
11 training commission, law enforcement agencies, and others deemed
12 appropriate and approved by the school safety center advisory
13 committee. The advisory committee shall select a chair.

14 The school safety center advisory committee shall develop a
15 training program, using the best practices in school safety, for all
16 school safety personnel. The Washington state criminal justice
17 training commission, in collaboration with the office of the
18 superintendent of public instruction, shall provide the school safety
19 training for all school administrators and school safety personnel,
20 including school safety personnel hired after the effective date of
21 this section.

22 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.320
23 RCW to read as follows:

24 A consistent comprehensive approach to school safety includes
25 comprehensive safe school plan and implementation of the plan. Each
26 school district shall direct schools in its district to develop a
27 comprehensive safe schools plan. The plan shall cover prevention,
28 intervention, all hazards and crisis response, and postcrisis recovery.
29 Staff, students, parents, the community, law enforcement, and emergency
30 preparedness shall be involved in the development and implementation of
31 the plan.

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

34 The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall
35 contract with an independent vendor to establish the school safety
36 hotline. The office of the superintendent of public instruction, with
37 the recommendations of the school safety center advisory committee,

1 shall develop the request for proposal to obtain hotline services. The
2 hotline shall include the maintenance and operation of a toll-free,
3 confidential hotline available for students, parents, school personnel,
4 and community members to report information, including anonymous tips,
5 on any activity threatening a school, students, visitors, or personnel,
6 including suicide.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** If specific funding for the purposes of this
8 act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not provided by
9 June 30, 2001, in the omnibus appropriations act, this act is null and
10 void.

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