

**SSB 5079 - S AMD 42**

By Senators Finkbeiner, Hargrove

ADOPTED 03/06/2003

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the  
2 following:

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) Effective, natural science, wildlife,  
4 and environmental education programs provide the foundation for the  
5 development of literate children and adults, setting the stage for  
6 lifelong learning. Furthermore, integrating the basic subject areas of  
7 the common school curriculum in chapter 28A.230 RCW through natural  
8 science, wildlife, and environmental education offers many  
9 opportunities for achieving excellence in our schools. Well-designed  
10 programs, aligned with the state's essential academic learning  
11 requirements, contribute to the state's educational reform goals.

12 (2) Washington is fortunate to have institutions and programs that  
13 currently provide quality natural science, wildlife, and environmental  
14 education and teacher training that is already aligned with the state's  
15 essential academic learning requirements.

16 (3) The legislature intends to further the development of natural  
17 science, wildlife, and environmental education by establishing a  
18 competitive grant program, funded through state moneys to the extent  
19 those moneys are appropriated, or made available through other sources,  
20 for proven natural science, wildlife, and environmental education  
21 programs that are fully aligned with the state's essential academic  
22 learning requirements.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.300  
24 RCW to read as follows:

25 The Washington natural science, wildlife, and environmental  
26 education partnership account is hereby created in the custody of the  
27 state treasurer to provide natural science, wildlife, and environmental  
28 education opportunities for teachers and students to help achieve the

1 highest quality of excellence in education through compliance with the  
2 essential academic learning requirements. Revenues to the account  
3 shall consist of appropriations made by the legislature or other  
4 sources. Grants and their administration shall be paid from the  
5 account. Only the superintendent of public instruction or the  
6 superintendent's designee may authorize expenditures from the account.  
7 The fund is subject to allotment procedures under chapter 43.88 RCW,  
8 but an appropriation is not required for expenditures.

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

11 (1) The natural science, wildlife, and environmental education  
12 grant program is hereby created, subject to the availability of funds  
13 in the natural science, wildlife, and environmental education  
14 partnership account. The program is created to promote proven and  
15 innovative natural science, wildlife, and environmental education  
16 programs that are fully aligned with the state's essential academic  
17 learning requirements and includes but is not limited to instruction  
18 about renewable resources, responsible use of resources, and  
19 conservation.

20 (2) The superintendent of public instruction shall establish and  
21 publish funding criteria for environmental, natural science, wildlife,  
22 forestry, and agricultural education grants. The office of  
23 superintendent of public instruction shall involve a cross-section of  
24 stakeholder groups to develop socially, economically, and  
25 environmentally balanced funding criteria. These criteria shall be  
26 based on compliance with the essential academic learning requirements  
27 and use methods that encourage critical thinking. The criteria must  
28 also include environmental, natural science, wildlife, forestry, and  
29 agricultural education programs with one or more of the following  
30 features:

31 (a) Interdisciplinary approaches to environmental, natural science,  
32 wildlife, forestry, and agricultural issues;

33 (b) Programs that target underserved, disadvantaged, and  
34 multicultural populations;

35 (c) Programs that reach out to schools across the state that would  
36 otherwise not have access to specialized environmental, natural  
37 science, wildlife, forestry, and agricultural education programs;

1 (d) Proven programs offered by innovative community partnerships  
2 designed to improve student learning and strengthen local communities.

3 (3) Eligible uses of grants include, but are not limited to:

4 (a) Continuing in-service and preservice training for educators  
5 with materials specifically developed to enable educators to teach  
6 essential academic learning requirements in a compelling and effective  
7 manner;

8 (b) Proven, innovative programs that align the basic subject areas  
9 of the common school curriculum in chapter 28A.230 RCW with the  
10 essential academic learning requirements; the basic subject areas  
11 should be integrated by using environmental education, natural science,  
12 wildlife, forestry, agricultural, and natural environment curricula to  
13 meet the needs of various learning styles; and

14 (c) Support and equipment needed for the implementation of the  
15 programs in this section.

16 (4) Grants may only be disbursed to nonprofit organizations exempt  
17 from income tax under section 501(c) of the federal internal revenue  
18 code that can provide matching funds or in-kind services.

19 (5) Grants may not be used for any partisan or political  
20 activities."

**SSB 5079 - S AMD 42**

By Senators Finkbeiner, Hargrove

**ADOPTED 03/06/2003**

21 On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "education;" strike the  
22 remainder of the title and insert "adding new sections to chapter  
23 28A.300 RCW; and creating a new section."

**--- END ---**