
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1811

State of Washington

58th Legislature

2003 Regular Session

By House Committee on Education (originally sponsored by Representatives Hunter, Talcott, Haigh, Jarrett, Cox, Tom, Rockefeller, Schual-Berke, Miloscia, Quall, McDermott, Grant, Bailey, Nixon, Santos, Hunt and Clibborn)

READ FIRST TIME 03/04/03.

1 AN ACT Relating to studying the education finance system; creating
2 a new section; and providing an expiration date.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The office of financial management shall
5 conduct a comprehensive study of the Washington education finance
6 system, including examination of alternative teacher compensation
7 models.

8 (2) The study shall, at a minimum:

9 (a) Compare Washington's common school funding system with those in
10 other states that are beginning to link finance systems with education
11 reform and expected student learning outcomes;

12 (b) Review the role of state and local funding and levy
13 equalization policies in the Washington common school finance system,
14 building upon the 2002 joint task force on local effort assistance
15 report;

16 (c) Design alternative common school finance systems for
17 Washington, with consideration of the following principles:

18 (i) Aligning the finance system with the policy expectations and

1 goals established under education reform to provide all students the
2 opportunity to achieve state standards;

3 (ii) Recognizing staffing as a key component of school district
4 costs, including the number of and compensation for certificated
5 instructional staff, certificated administrative staff, and classified
6 staff;

7 (iii) Providing stable and predictable funding for school
8 districts;

9 (iv) Supporting local flexibility in program delivery; and
10 (v) Providing accountability for taxpayers focused on student
11 learning outcomes;

12 (d) Design one or more alternative compensation models that:
13 (i) Attract and retain high performing teachers in all Washington
14 schools;

15 (ii) Reward teachers for improving their skills and knowledge in a
16 manner that translates into improved student learning;

17 (iii) Recognize participation in teacher mentoring programs; and
18 (iv) Recognize different career stages for teachers and the
19 leadership roles they perform in schools; and

20 (e) Design a prekindergarten finance system to maximize school
21 readiness and provide smooth transitions for children into
22 kindergarten.

23 (3)(a) A twenty-three member steering committee shall direct the
24 office of financial management in the system review and the development
25 of alternatives and recommendations.

26 (b) The governor and the superintendent of public instruction shall
27 jointly appoint the following members of the steering committee: A
28 school board director, two school district administrators, a school
29 principal, two certificated instructional staff, and a classified
30 school employee. When making appointments, the governor and the
31 superintendent shall consider regional representation on the committee,
32 including the need for urban, rural, and suburban district
33 perspectives.

34 (c) The governor shall appoint the following members of the
35 steering committee: An early childhood educator, a parent, a business
36 executive, and three public members.

37 (d) The steering committee shall include the superintendent of
38 public instruction, or the superintendent's designee.

1 (e) The steering committee shall also include eight legislators:
2 The speaker of the house of representatives, the senate majority
3 leader, the house of representatives and senate minority leaders, and
4 one additional member appointed by each major caucus of the house of
5 representatives and the senate.

6 (f) The governor, or the governor's appointee, shall chair the
7 committee.

8 (g) Appointments to the steering committee shall be completed
9 within thirty days of the effective date of this section.

10 (h) The committee may form an executive committee, create
11 subcommittees, designate alternative representatives, and define other
12 procedures, as needed, for the operation of the committee.

13 (i) Legislative members of the steering committee shall be
14 reimbursed for travel expenses as provided in RCW 44.04.120. Other
15 members of the steering committee shall, and members of subcommittees
16 may, be reimbursed for travel expenses as provided in RCW 43.03.050 and
17 43.03.060.

18 (4) The office of the superintendent of public instruction, the
19 academic achievement and accountability commission, the state board of
20 education, and the professional educator standards board shall provide
21 data and technical expertise to support the study.

22 (5) The office of financial management shall report initial
23 findings and recommendations of the committee to the legislature,
24 including the education and fiscal committees of the house of
25 representatives and the senate, by June 30, 2004. A final report shall
26 be provided to the education and fiscal committees of the house of
27 representatives and the senate by December 20, 2004.

28 (6) This section expires June 30, 2005.

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