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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2012**

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**State of Washington**

**58th Legislature**

**2003 Regular Session**

**By** House Committee on Education (originally sponsored by Representatives Fromhold, Cox, Kenney, Hunter, Quall, Moeller, Chase and Santos)

READ FIRST TIME 03/05/03.

1 AN ACT Relating to a special services pilot program; adding a new  
2 section to chapter 28A.630 RCW; creating a new section; providing an  
3 expiration date; and declaring an emergency.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** Research has shown that early, intensive  
6 assistance can significantly improve reading and language skills for  
7 children who are struggling academically. This early research-based  
8 assistance has been successful in reducing the number of children who  
9 require specialized programs. However, by being effective in reducing  
10 the number of students eligible for these programs, school district  
11 funding is reduced.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.630  
13 RCW to read as follows:

14 (1) The special services pilot program is created. The purpose of  
15 the program is to encourage participating school districts to provide  
16 early intensive reading and language assistance to students who are  
17 struggling academically. The goal of such assistance is to effectively  
18 address reading and language difficulties resulting in a substantially

1 greater proportion of students meeting the progressively increasing  
2 performance standards for both the aggregate and disaggregated  
3 subgroups under federal law.

4 (2) A maximum of two school districts may participate. Interested  
5 districts shall apply no later than May 15, 2003, to the superintendent  
6 of public instruction to participate in the pilot program established  
7 by this section. The superintendent shall make a decision no later  
8 than June 15, 2003, regarding which two school districts may  
9 participate in the program.

10 (3) The pilot program is intended to be six years, to begin in the  
11 2003-04 school year and conclude in the 2008-09 school year, unless the  
12 program is extended by the legislature.

13 (4) School districts participating in the pilot program shall  
14 receive state special education funding in accordance with state  
15 special education funding formulas and a separate pilot program  
16 appropriation from sources other than special education funds equal to  
17 the district's special education funding for its average percentage  
18 enrollment in the 2001-02 and 2002-03 school years minus the district's  
19 annual actual funding for special education.

20 (5) It is not the intent of this act to increase or decrease a  
21 district's ability to access the safety net for high cost students by  
22 virtue of the district's participation in this pilot program.  
23 Districts participating in this pilot program shall have access to the  
24 special education safety net using a modified application approach for  
25 the office of the superintendent of public instruction Worksheet A -  
26 demonstration of financial need. The superintendent shall create a  
27 modified application to include all special education revenues received  
28 by the district, all pilot program funding, and include expenditures  
29 for students with individual education plans and expenditures for  
30 students generating pilot program revenue. Districts participating in  
31 this pilot project that seek safety net funding shall convincingly  
32 demonstrate to the committee that any change in demonstrated need on  
33 the Worksheet A is not attributable to their participation in this  
34 pilot project.

35 (6) School districts participating in the program must agree to:

36 (a) Implement a tiered set of research-based instructional  
37 interventions addressing individual student needs that address reading  
38 and language deficits;

1 (b) Use multiple diagnostic instruments to identify the literacy  
2 needs of each student;

3 (c) Assure parents are informed of diagnosed student needs, and  
4 have input into designed interventions;

5 (d) Actively engage parents as partners in the learning process;

6 (e) Comply with state special education requirements; and

7 (f) Participate in an evaluation of the program as determined by  
8 the superintendent of public instruction. This may include  
9 contributing funds and staff expertise for the design and  
10 implementation of the evaluation. Districts shall annually review and  
11 report progress to the office of the superintendent of public  
12 instruction.

13 (7) By December 15, 2007, the superintendent of public instruction  
14 shall submit a report to the governor and legislature that summarizes  
15 the effectiveness of the pilot program. The report shall also include  
16 a recommendation as to whether or not the pilot program should be  
17 continued, expanded, or otherwise modified.

18 (8) This section expires June 30, 2010.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** This act is necessary for the immediate  
20 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the  
21 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect  
22 immediately.

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