
HOUSE BILL 2260

State of Washington 58th Legislature 2003 Regular Session

By Representatives Sommers, Fromhold, McIntire and Moeller

Read first time 04/16/2003. Referred to Committee on Appropriations.

1 AN ACT Relating to cost-of-living increases for educational
2 employees; amending RCW 28A.400.205, 28A.400.206, 28B.50.465, and
3 28B.50.468; and declaring an emergency.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.400.205 and 2001 c 4 s 2 (Initiative Measure No.
6 732) are each amended to read as follows:

7 (1) School district employees shall be provided an annual salary
8 cost-of-living increase in accordance with this section.

9 (a) The cost-of-living increase shall be calculated by applying the
10 rate of the yearly increase in the cost-of-living index to any state-
11 funded salary base used in state funding formulas for teachers and
12 other school district employees. Beginning with the 2001-02 school
13 year, and for each subsequent school year, each school district shall
14 be provided a cost-of-living allocation sufficient to grant this cost-
15 of-living increase (~~for the salaries, including mandatory salary-~~
16 ~~related benefits, of all employees of the district)). For the 2003-04
17 school year, the cost-of-living increase shall be provided on January
18 1, 2004, and for the 2004-05 school year, the cost-of-living increase
19 shall be provided on January 1, 2005.~~

1 (b) A school district shall distribute its cost-of-living
2 allocation for salaries and salary-related benefits in accordance with
3 the district's salary schedules, collective bargaining agreements, and
4 compensation policies. No later than the end of the school year, each
5 school district shall certify to the superintendent of public
6 instruction that it has spent funds provided for cost-of-living
7 increases on salaries and salary-related benefits.

8 (c) Any funded cost-of-living increase shall be included in the
9 salary base used to determine cost-of-living increases for ((all))
10 school employees in subsequent years. For teachers and other
11 certificated instructional staff, the rate of the annual cost-of-living
12 increase funded for certificated instructional staff shall be applied
13 to the base salary used with the statewide salary allocation schedule
14 established under RCW 28A.150.410 and to any other salary models used
15 to recognize school district personnel costs.

16 ~~((d) Beginning with the 2001-02 school year, the state shall fully
17 fund the cost of living increase in this section as part of its
18 obligation to meet the basic education requirements under Article IX of
19 the Washington Constitution.))~~

20 (2) For the purposes of this section, "cost-of-living index" means,
21 for any school year, the previous calendar year's annual average
22 consumer price index, using the official current base, compiled by the
23 bureau of labor statistics, United States department of labor for the
24 state of Washington. For the cost-of-living increases for the 2003-04
25 and 2004-05 school years, "cost-of-living index" means the annual
26 average consumer price index, using the official current base, compiled
27 by the bureau of labor statistics, United States department of labor
28 for the state of Washington, for calendar years 2002 and 2003,
29 respectively. If the bureau of labor statistics develops more than one
30 consumer price index for areas within the state, the index covering the
31 greatest number of people, covering areas exclusively within the
32 boundaries of the state, and including all items shall be used for the
33 cost-of-living index in this section.

34 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.400.206 and 2001 c 4 s 1 (Initiative Measure No.
35 732) are each amended to read as follows:

36 The Washington Constitution establishes "the paramount duty of the
37 state to make ample provision for the education of all children."

1 Providing quality education for all children in Washington requires
2 well-qualified and experienced teachers and other school employees.
3 However, salaries for educators have not kept up with the increased
4 cost-of-living in the state. The failure to keep up with inflation
5 threatens Washington's ability to compete with other states to attract
6 first-rate teachers to Washington classrooms and to keep well-qualified
7 educators from leaving for other professions. The state must provide
8 a fair and reasonable cost-of-living increase, as provided in RCW
9 28A.400.205, to help ensure that the state attracts and keeps the best
10 teachers and school employees for the children of Washington.

11 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28B.50.465 and 2001 c 4 s 3 (Initiative Measure No.
12 732) are each amended to read as follows:

13 (1) Academic employees of community and technical college districts
14 shall be provided an annual salary cost-of-living increase in
15 accordance with this section. For purposes of this section, "academic
16 employee" has the same meaning as defined in RCW 28B.52.020.

17 (a) Beginning with the 2001-2002 fiscal year, and for each
18 subsequent fiscal year, each college district shall receive a cost-of-
19 living allocation sufficient to increase academic employee salaries,
20 including mandatory salary-related benefits, by the rate of the yearly
21 increase in the cost-of-living index. For fiscal year 2004, the cost-
22 of-living increase shall be provided on January 1, 2004, and for fiscal
23 year 2005, the cost-of-living increase shall be provided on January 1,
24 2005.

25 (b) A college district shall distribute its cost-of-living
26 allocation for salaries and salary-related benefits in accordance with
27 the district's salary schedules, collective bargaining agreements, and
28 other compensation policies. No later than the end of the fiscal year,
29 each college district shall certify to the college board that it has
30 spent funds provided for cost-of-living increases on salaries and
31 salary-related benefits.

32 (c) The college board shall include any funded cost-of-living
33 increase in the salary base used to determine cost-of-living increases
34 for academic employees in subsequent years.

35 (d) Beginning with the 2001-2002 fiscal year, the state shall fully
36 fund the cost-of-living increase set forth in this section, subject to
37 (a) of this subsection.

1 (2) For the purposes of this section, "cost-of-living index" means,
2 for any fiscal year, the previous calendar year's annual average
3 consumer price index, using the official current base, compiled by the
4 bureau of labor statistics, United States department of labor for the
5 state of Washington. For the cost-of-living increases for the 2004 and
6 2005 fiscal years, "cost-of-living index" means the annual average
7 consumer price index, using the official current base, compiled by the
8 bureau of labor statistics, United States department of labor for the
9 state of Washington, for calendar years 2002 and 2003, respectively.
10 If the bureau of labor statistics develops more than one consumer price
11 index for areas within the state, the index covering the greatest
12 number of people, covering areas exclusively within the boundaries of
13 the state, and including all items shall be used for the cost-of-living
14 index in this section.

15 **Sec. 4.** RCW 28B.50.468 and 2001 c 4 s 4 (Initiative Measure No.
16 732) are each amended to read as follows:

17 (1) Classified employees of technical colleges shall be provided an
18 annual salary cost-of-living increase in accordance with this section.
19 For purposes of this section, "technical college" has the same meaning
20 as defined in RCW 28B.50.030. This section applies to only those
21 classified employees under the jurisdiction of chapter 41.56 RCW.

22 (a) Beginning with the 2001-2002 fiscal year, and for each
23 subsequent fiscal year, each technical college board of trustees shall
24 receive a cost-of-living allocation sufficient to increase classified
25 employee salaries, including mandatory salary-related benefits, by the
26 rate of the yearly increase in the cost-of-living index. For fiscal
27 year 2004, the cost-of-living increase shall be provided on January 1,
28 2004, and for fiscal year 2005, the cost-of-living increase shall be
29 provided on January 1, 2005.

30 (b) A technical college board of trustees shall distribute its
31 cost-of-living allocation for salaries and salary-related benefits in
32 accordance with the technical college's salary schedules, collective
33 bargaining agreements, and other compensation policies. No later than
34 the end of the fiscal year, each technical college shall certify to the
35 college board that it has spent funds provided for cost-of-living
36 increases on salaries and salary-related benefits.

1 (c) The college board shall include any funded cost-of-living
2 increase in the salary base used to determine cost-of-living increases
3 for technical college classified employees in subsequent years, subject
4 to (a) of this subsection.

5 (d) Beginning with the 2001-2002 fiscal year, the state shall fully
6 fund the cost-of-living increase set forth in this section.

7 (2) For the purposes of this section, "cost-of-living index" means,
8 for any fiscal year, the previous calendar year's annual average
9 consumer price index, using the official current base, compiled by the
10 bureau of labor statistics, United States department of labor for the
11 state of Washington. For the cost-of-living increases for the 2004 and
12 2005 fiscal years, "cost-of-living index" means the annual average
13 consumer price index, using the official current base, compiled by the
14 bureau of labor statistics, United States department of labor for the
15 state of Washington, for calendar years 2002 and 2003, respectively.
16 If the bureau of labor statistics develops more than one consumer price
17 index for areas within the state, the index covering the greatest
18 number of people, covering areas exclusively within the boundaries of
19 the state, and including all items shall be used for the cost-of-living
20 index in this section.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** This act is necessary for the immediate
22 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
23 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
24 immediately.

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