
HOUSE BILL 2704

State of Washington

58th Legislature

2004 Regular Session

By Representatives Talcott, Haigh, Tom, Kenney, Anderson, Nixon, Carrell, Boldt, Kirby, Benson, Hunter, Jarrett, Priest, Skinner, Upthegrove, Shabro, Miloscia, Quall, Buck, Ruderman, Moeller, Rockefeller and Kagi

Read first time 01/20/2004. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to alternative learning experience programs; and
2 amending RCW 28A.150.305.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.150.305 and 2002 c 291 s 1 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) The board of directors of school districts may contract with
7 alternative educational service providers for eligible students.
8 Alternative educational service providers that the school district may
9 contract with include, but are not limited to:

10 (a) Other schools;

11 (b) Alternative education programs not operated by the school
12 district;

13 (c) Education centers;

14 (d) Skills centers;

15 (e) The Washington national guard youth challenge program;

16 (f) Dropout prevention programs; or

17 (g) Other public or private organizations, excluding sectarian or
18 religious organizations.

1 (2) Eligible students include students who are likely to be
2 expelled or who are enrolled in the school district but have been
3 suspended, are academically at risk, or who have been subject to
4 repeated disciplinary actions due to behavioral problems.

5 (3) School districts may operate or provide through contract
6 alternative learning experience programs for eligible full-time
7 students or eligible part-time students who meet the provisions of RCW
8 28A.150.350. The programs:

9 (a) Must address the diverse needs of students for courses of study
10 provided in nontraditional learning environments;

11 (b) Must be supervised by certificated staff, who may be employed
12 either by the school district or by a contractor selected by the school
13 district;

14 (c) Must provide each student with direct personal contact at least
15 weekly with certificated staff designated by either the school district
16 or by the contractor with the approval of the school district. Direct
17 personal contact is for the purposes of instruction, assignment review,
18 testing, evaluation of student progress, or other learning activities.
19 Direct personal contact may include the use of telephone, interactive
20 computer, or interactive video communication;

21 (d) Must assess the educational progress of enrolled students at
22 least annually, using, for full-time students, the state assessment
23 provided for the student's grade level, and using any other annual
24 assessments required by the school district. Part-time students must
25 also be assessed at least annually. Part-time students who are either
26 receiving home-based instruction under chapter 28A.200 RCW or who are
27 enrolled in private schools under chapter 28A.195 RCW are not required
28 to participate in the assessments required under RCW 28A.655.060;

29 (e) May include significant participation by students, parents, and
30 families in the design and implementation of a student's learning
31 experience; and

32 (f) May provide individualized courses of study for students.

33 (4) If a school district board of directors (~~chooses to~~)
34 initiates specialized programs for students at risk of expulsion or who
35 are failing academically by contracting out with alternative
36 educational service providers identified in subsection (1) of this
37 section, the school district board of directors and the organization
38 must specify the specific learning standards that students are expected

1 to achieve. Placement of the student (~~shall~~) must be jointly
2 determined by the school district, the student's parent or legal
3 guardian, and the alternative educational service provider.

4 (~~(4)~~) (5) For the purpose of this section, the superintendent of
5 public instruction (~~shall~~) must adopt rules for reporting and
6 documenting enrollment. Students may reenter at the grade level
7 appropriate to the student's ability. Students who are sixteen years
8 of age or older may take the GED test.

9 (~~(5)~~) (6) The school district board of directors (~~of school~~
10 ~~districts~~) may require that students who would otherwise be suspended
11 or expelled attend schools or programs listed in subsection (1) of this
12 section as a condition of continued enrollment in the school district.

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