
SENATE BILL 6523

State of Washington

58th Legislature

2004 Regular Session

By Senators Deccio, Franklin, Pflug, Prentice, Keiser, Winsley, Thibaudeau, Rasmussen and Kohl-Welles

Read first time 01/22/2004. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to school nurses; creating new sections; and making
2 an appropriation.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that schools are
5 increasingly required to play an expanding role in protecting our
6 children's health. Schools are responsible for monitoring the
7 immunization of children, evaluating children's hearing and vision, and
8 screening for scoliosis. Chronically ill children often require
9 medically ordered treatment to enable them to attend school.
10 Medication is often required to be given to children during the school
11 day. Schools are also responsible for identifying and reporting child
12 abuse, identifying drug and alcohol problems, treating emergencies,
13 providing counseling and assistance for teenage parents, and providing
14 AIDS, human growth and development, and personal safety education.
15 Schools are asked to coordinate with families and community services to
16 manage students with significant health problems and to make referrals
17 to appropriate community services. Schools are required to abide by
18 rules of confidentiality and to properly maintain health care records.
19 The legislature finds that additional school nurses with the

1 appropriate expertise are needed in our schools to play a pivotal role
2 in improving the health and educational success of the school-age
3 child.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The sum of forty-five thousand dollars, or
5 as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the fiscal
6 year ending June 30, 2005, from the general fund to the office of the
7 superintendent of public instruction for the purpose of funding a
8 position to pursue grants and obtain funds for the school nurse
9 account.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The school nurse account is created in the
11 custody of the state treasurer. All receipts from gifts, grants, or
12 endowments obtained under section 4 of this act must be deposited into
13 the account.

14 Expenditures from the account may be used only to increase the
15 number of certificated educational staff associate school nurses in
16 class I school districts. School districts with more than one thousand
17 five hundred students for every school nurse shall receive priority for
18 these funds. As used in this section, "school nurse" does not include
19 nurses in the school nurse corps.

20 Only the superintendent of public instruction or the
21 superintendent's designee may authorize expenditures from the account.
22 The account is subject to allotment procedures under chapter 43.88 RCW,
23 but an appropriation is not required for expenditures.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The office of the superintendent of public
25 instruction may receive gifts, grants, or endowments from public or
26 private sources that are made from time to time, in trust or otherwise,
27 for the use and benefit of the purposes of this act and spend gifts,
28 grants, or endowments or income from the public or private sources to
29 support the purpose in section 3 of this act, unless the receipt of the
30 gifts, grants, or endowments violates RCW 42.17.710.

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