

**SHB 3127 - H AMD 748**

By Representative Nixon

1           Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the  
2 following:

3           "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that the  
4 complexity of modern political life has created a demand for  
5 informed citizens who are willing not only to vote, but also to  
6 participate in the elections process.

7           (2) The purpose of this section is to create a pilot project  
8 that will help to graduate students who are better voters, better  
9 citizens, and who are ready to take an informed and responsible  
10 place in society.

11           (3) The office of the superintendent of public instruction  
12 shall work with selected county auditors' offices to develop an  
13 interactive high school civics curriculum to help students learn  
14 how to become informed citizens. The curriculum shall meet the  
15 requirements for the office of the superintendent of public  
16 instruction's classroom-based assessments. Staff from the office of  
17 the superintendent of public instruction shall work directly in the  
18 curriculum development.

19           (4) Counties shall apply to, and be selected by, the office of  
20 the superintendent of public instruction to participate in the  
21 pilot project under this section. A maximum of fifteen counties may  
22 participate.

23           (5) The curriculum shall include, but not be limited to:

24           (a) Local government organization;

25           (b) A discussion of ballot measures, initiatives, and referenda;

26           (c) The role of the precinct in defining ballots, candidates,  
27 and political activities;

28           (d) The roles and responsibilities of taxing jurisdictions in  
29 establishing ballot measures; and

30           (e) The work of conducting elections.

1 (6) The study may include in the curriculum civics essential  
2 academic learning requirements relating to examining representative  
3 government and citizen participation and analyzing the purposes and  
4 organization of government and laws.

5 (7) A curriculum guide shall be developed that will help  
6 teachers and students maximize the learning of key issues in  
7 civics, and shall include strategies for helping students develop  
8 voters' guide information for ballot issues and candidates who  
9 appear on the ballot. This guide should incorporate ideas from  
10 other Washington state civics education programs, such as "We the  
11 People" and "Project Citizen." The guide should also present ideas  
12 for sharing the results of an election with the larger community  
13 and with local government officials in productive, meaningful ways.

14 (8) As part of the pilot project, high school students in  
15 participating counties shall be selected who will have supervised  
16 access to the county's election reporting web site to assist the  
17 county in managing its internet election reporting system. School  
18 districts in participating counties shall select students to  
19 participate in this aspect of the pilot project. Counties shall  
20 provide technical assistance and elections expertise to  
21 participating schools, either through existing staff resources or  
22 through a county-chosen vendor.

23 (9) In addition to the required components of the pilot project  
24 under this section, other activities may be included in the  
25 project, such as:

26 (a) Conducting mock county elections at schools;

27 (b) Using a school version of the county's reporting and  
28 election system to conduct school elections, including, where  
29 possible, having school election results posted on the county's  
30 election web site; and

31 (c) Preparing an advisory issue on which the school or local  
32 community would vote, including issue preparation, conducting the  
33 election, and preparing a presentation to a local government  
34 official on the results of the advisory issue.

35 (10) The pilot project shall operate for the 2006-07 and  
36 2007-08 school years.

37 (11) Funds for the pilot project shall be made available to the  
38 office of the superintendent of public instruction for a contract  
39 position in civics curriculum and for support costs for soliciting

1 and implementing volunteer participation.

2 (12) The office of the superintendent of public instruction  
3 shall adopt rules to implement this section, including rules  
4 specifying selection criteria for counties that wish to participate.

5 (13) The superintendent of public instruction shall provide an  
6 interim report to appropriate committees of the legislature by  
7 December 1, 2008, and a final report by December 1, 2009, detailing  
8 the results of the project and budget recommendations for  
9 expansion, if appropriate.

10 (14) This section expires January 31, 2010.

11 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. The office of the secretary of state shall  
12 enter into an interlocal agreement under chapter 39.34 RCW with the  
13 office of the superintendent of public instruction in which the  
14 office of the secretary of state shall pay the office of the  
15 superintendent of public instruction a minimum of two hundred forty  
16 thousand dollars, representing funds received by the office of the  
17 secretary of state under the federal help America vote act, for the  
18 purpose of curriculum development by the office of the  
19 superintendent of public instruction under this section. Payment  
20 under this section shall be made no later than July 1, 2006. Funds  
21 under this section shall be used for an eighteen-month contract  
22 position at the office of the superintendent of public instruction,  
23 including seminars and follow-up costs.

24 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. (1) The sum of two hundred thousand  
25 dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated  
26 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2007, from the general fund to  
27 the office of the state auditor for the purposes of this act.

28 (2) The sum of two hundred thousand dollars, or as much thereof  
29 as may be necessary, is appropriated for the fiscal year ending  
30 June 30, 2008, from the general fund to the office of the state  
31 auditor for the purposes of this act.

32 (3) The appropriations in this section shall be made available  
33 by the auditor's office directly to participating counties for  
34 internet requirements by December 31, 2008. Funding is for the  
35 purpose of supporting the prototype project. Counties may use funds  
36 for in-house development, vendor agreements, or to support existing  
37 services. Funding priority shall be given to counties in which

- 1 technology and budgeting constraints would make participating in
- 2 the pilot project a funding liability."
  
- 3 Correct the title.

**EFFECT:** Replaces all provisions of the substitute bill with a requirement that SPI create a pilot project with up to 15 county auditors. The pilot project is an interactive high school civics curriculum where selected students in participating counties assist the county in managing its internet election reporting system. \$400,000 is appropriated from the state general fund, plus \$240,000 from federal funds under the Help America Vote Act to support the project.