
HOUSE BILL 1122

State of Washington

59th Legislature

2005 Regular Session

By Representatives Kenney, Priest, Dickerson, Jarrett, Morrell, Wood, Kagi, Ormsby, Williams, Tom, Sells, Shabro, McDermott and Santos

Read first time 01/17/2005. Referred to Committee on Higher Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to education programs for teachers of the deaf and
2 hard of hearing; and adding new sections to chapter 28B.76 RCW.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.76 RCW
5 under the subchapter heading "Part III - Education Services
6 Administration" to read as follows:

7 (1) The legislature finds that improving education and services for
8 children who are deaf or hard of hearing requires a corps of highly
9 trained teachers, knowledgeable of the most recent research and
10 pedagogy, and competent to address the full range of communication and
11 educational options for their students.

12 (2) The legislature also finds that the preservice training and
13 professional development necessary to create such a corps of teachers
14 are not currently available through teacher preparation or in-service
15 programs in Washington.

16 (3) Therefore the legislature intends to provide an incentive for
17 institutions of higher education to develop curricula, design education
18 and training programs, and use innovative service delivery models for
19 teachers of the deaf and hard of hearing.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.76 RCW
2 under the subchapter heading "Part III - Education Services
3 Administration" to read as follows:

4 (1) Subject to legislative appropriation, the higher education
5 coordinating board may award, on a competitive basis, grants to public
6 institutions of higher education or consortia of institutions to
7 develop education programs for teachers of the deaf and hard of
8 hearing.

9 (2) The board shall develop guidelines for grant proposals,
10 including:

11 (a) Developing interdisciplinary curricula that cover the full
12 range of communication options for deaf and hard of hearing children,
13 including oral communication, American sign language, total
14 communication, and other communication modes. Program curricula shall
15 also address the full range of education for deaf and hard of hearing
16 children, including early intervention services, education in
17 mainstream classrooms, and education in separate learning environments
18 with other deaf and hard of hearing students;

19 (b) Using service delivery models that reach future and current
20 teachers across the state in a cost-effective manner; and

21 (c) Incorporating the curricula into both teacher preparation and
22 in-service programs and addressing the needs of both classroom teachers
23 and itinerant teachers.

24 (3) Priority shall be given to proposals from consortia of
25 institutions working in collaboration and proposals with the greatest
26 potential to reach a maximum number of teachers across the state.

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