
HOUSE BILL 1485

State of Washington 59th Legislature 2005 Regular Session

By Representatives Hunter, Jarrett, Wallace, Tom, Fromhold,
McDermott, Haigh, Kenney and P. Sullivan

Read first time 01/25/2005. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to the school bus bid process; and amending RCW
2 28A.160.195.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.160.195 and 2004 c 276 s 904 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) The superintendent of public instruction, in consultation with
7 the regional transportation coordinators of the educational service
8 districts, shall establish a minimum number of school bus categories
9 considering the capacity and type of vehicles required by school
10 districts in Washington. The superintendent, in consultation with the
11 regional transportation coordinators of the educational service
12 districts, shall establish competitive specifications for each category
13 of school bus. The categories shall be developed to produce minimum
14 long-range operating costs, including costs of equipment and all costs
15 in operating the vehicles. ~~((The categories, for purposes of
16 comparative studies, will be at a minimum the same as those in the
17 beginning of the 1994-95 school year.))~~ The competitive specifications
18 shall meet federal motor vehicle safety standards, minimum state
19 specifications as established by rule by the superintendent, and

1 supported options as determined by the superintendent in consultation
2 with the regional transportation coordinators of the educational
3 service districts. ~~((In fiscal year 2005,))~~ The superintendent may
4 solicit and accept price quotes for a rear-engine category school bus
5 that shall be reimbursed at the price of the corresponding front engine
6 category.

7 (2) After establishing school bus categories and competitive
8 specifications, the superintendent of public instruction shall solicit
9 competitive price quotes for base buses from school bus dealers to be
10 in effect for one year and shall ~~((a) except in fiscal year 2005,~~
11 ~~establish a list of the lowest competitive price quotes obtained under~~
12 ~~this subsection, and (b) in fiscal year 2005,))~~ establish a list of all
13 accepted price quotes in each category obtained under this subsection.
14 The superintendent shall also solicit price quotes for optional
15 features and equipment.

16 (3) The superintendent shall base the level of reimbursement to
17 school districts and educational service districts for school buses on
18 the lowest quote for the base bus in each category. School districts
19 and educational service districts shall be reimbursed for buses
20 purchased only through a lowest-price competitive bid process conducted
21 under RCW 28A.335.190 or through the state bid process established by
22 this section.

23 (4) Notwithstanding RCW 28A.335.190, school districts and
24 educational service districts may purchase at the quoted price directly
25 from ~~((the))~~ any dealer who is ~~((providing the lowest competitive price~~
26 ~~quote))~~ on the list established under subsection (2) of this section
27 ~~((and in fiscal year 2005 from any dealer on the list established under~~
28 ~~subsection (2)(b) of this section))~~. School districts and educational
29 service districts may make their own selections for school buses, but
30 shall be reimbursed at the rates determined under subsection (3) of
31 this section and RCW 28A.160.200. District-selected options shall not
32 be reimbursed by the state. ~~((For the 2003-05 fiscal biennium, school~~
33 ~~districts and educational service districts shall be reimbursed for~~
34 ~~buses purchased only through a lowest price competitive bid process~~
35 ~~conducted pursuant to RCW 28A.335.190 or through the state bid process~~
36 ~~established by this section.))~~

37 (5) This section does not prohibit school districts or educational
38 service districts from conducting their own competitive bid process.

1 (6) The superintendent of public instruction may adopt rules under
2 chapter 34.05 RCW to implement this section.

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