
HOUSE BILL 2618

State of Washington 59th Legislature 2006 Regular Session

By Representatives Anderson and Rodne

Read first time 01/11/2006. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to the remediation of student achievement
2 deficiencies on the Washington assessment of student learning; and
3 adding a new chapter to Title 28A RCW.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The graduation achievement program is
6 established. The purpose of the program is to improve significantly
7 the educational achievement of middle and high school students and
8 enable them to meet state standards for high school graduation in a
9 timely manner, including completion of a certificate of academic
10 achievement or a certificate of individual achievement. The program is
11 also intended to acknowledge the accomplishments of middle and high
12 school principals, teachers, and other school staff who help students
13 make these significant improvements.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The graduation achievement program account
15 is created in the state treasury. All funds provided by the
16 legislature for the graduation achievement program must be deposited in
17 the account. Moneys in the account may be spent only after
18 appropriation and shall be allocated to school districts by the

1 superintendent of public instruction as provided in section 3 of this
2 act. Moneys in the account are not part of basic education.
3 Expenditures from the account may be used solely as provided in section
4 4 of this act.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The superintendent of public instruction
6 shall allocate moneys from the graduation achievement program account
7 to school districts for each school year as follows:

8 (1) Five percent shall be for bonuses for principals and vice-
9 principals of middle schools, high schools, and other schools that
10 include any of grades seven through twelve. The bonuses are intended
11 to reward the accomplishments of principals in schools where students
12 have made significant improvement in student achievement, as measured
13 by the Washington assessment of student learning. The state board of
14 education shall develop the criteria for identifying schools whose
15 principals are eligible for a bonus. The criteria for awarding the
16 first bonuses under this subsection shall be developed by July 1, 2006,
17 and may be adjusted annually thereafter. One significant criterion
18 shall be success in improving achievement for students with limited
19 English proficiency. The board shall determine a bonus amount for an
20 identified school, and the principals and vice-principals of the school
21 shall determine how the bonus shall be distributed. The board shall
22 rank order identified schools and award bonuses until the moneys
23 available for this purpose are exhausted;

24 (2) Fifteen percent shall be for bonuses for certificated
25 instructional staff and other staff, not including principals or vice-
26 principals, of middle schools, high schools, and other schools that
27 include any of grades seven through twelve. The bonuses are intended
28 to reward the accomplishments of instructional and other staff in
29 schools where students have made significant improvement in student
30 achievement, as measured by the Washington assessment of student
31 learning. The state board of education shall develop the criteria for
32 identifying schools whose staff are eligible for a bonus. The criteria
33 for awarding the first bonuses under this subsection shall be developed
34 by July 1, 2006, and may be adjusted annually thereafter. One
35 significant criterion shall be success in improving achievement for
36 students with limited English proficiency. The board shall determine
37 a bonus amount for each identified school, which shall vary depending

1 on the number of staff in the school. The staff in the school shall
2 collectively determine how the bonus shall be distributed. The board
3 shall rank order identified schools and award bonuses until the moneys
4 available for this purpose are exhausted; and

5 (3) Eighty percent shall be allocated to school districts based on
6 prior year student enrollment in grades seven through twelve and shall
7 be used solely as provided in section 4 of this act.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) Each school district with student
9 enrollment in any of grades seven through twelve shall establish a
10 local graduation achievement program account. Moneys allocated to the
11 district under section 3 of this act, not including any principal or
12 staff bonuses, shall be deposited into the account. Expenditures from
13 the account shall be accounted for separately from other school
14 district expenditures. Within the account, the district shall
15 establish subaccounts for each middle school, high school, or other
16 school that includes any of grades seven through twelve. Except for
17 expenditures associated with the district graduation achievement
18 program coordinator, all other expenditures under this section shall be
19 accounted for under a school subaccount.

20 (2) Allocations and expenditures from the local graduation
21 achievement program account are not subject to collective bargaining.

22 (3) Each school district under this section shall designate a
23 district graduation achievement program coordinator. No more than
24 twenty percent of a district's graduation achievement program funds may
25 be expended on compensation or stipends for the district coordinator
26 and no more than one full-time equivalent staff may be compensated as
27 district coordinator using graduation achievement program funds.

28 (4) Except in school districts with only one school containing any
29 of grades seven through twelve, each school where more than sixty-five
30 percent of students did not meet the state standard in all required
31 subjects assessed by the seventh or tenth grade Washington assessment
32 of student learning administered during the previous school year shall
33 designate a building graduation achievement program coordinator. No
34 more than twenty percent of a district's graduation achievement program
35 funds may be expended on compensation or stipends for building
36 coordinators and no more than one full-time equivalent staff per school

1 may be compensated as a building coordinator using graduation
2 achievement program funds.

3 (5) Under the graduation achievement program, school districts
4 shall provide instructional programs specifically designed to remediate
5 student achievement deficiencies identified by the seventh or tenth
6 grade Washington assessment of student learning. Programs may be
7 offered before school, after school, on Saturdays, or during the
8 summer. Moneys from the local graduation achievement program account
9 may be expended on curriculum materials, diagnostic testing, school or
10 district expenses associated with students retaking the Washington
11 assessment of student learning, professional development for
12 instructional staff directly related to providing remedial instruction,
13 supplemental teaching contracts not to exceed sixty days, and other
14 operating expenses directly associated with the remedial instructional
15 programs. School districts may contract with third parties to provide
16 any aspect of the graduation achievement program.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Each school district shall submit an annual
18 report to the office of the superintendent of public instruction on the
19 expenditures, activities, and improvements in student achievement, by
20 school, under the graduation achievement program. The reports shall
21 use a common format developed by the office of the superintendent of
22 public instruction and shall be posted on the office's web site. The
23 office of the superintendent of public instruction shall summarize the
24 district reports and submit a statewide report of the graduation
25 achievement program to the education committees of the legislature by
26 January 15th of each year.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** Sections 1 through 5 of this act constitute
28 a new chapter in Title 28A RCW.

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