

E2SSB 5627 - H AMD

By Representative Haigh

ADOPTED AND ENGROSSED 04/10/2007

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

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The state's definition of basic education
4 and the corresponding funding formulas must be regularly updated in
5 order to keep pace with evolving educational practices and increasing
6 state and federal requirements and to ensure that all schools have the
7 resources they need to help give all students the opportunity to be
8 fully prepared to compete in a global economy. The work of Washington
9 learns steering committee and the K-12 advisory committee provides a
10 valuable starting point from which to evaluate the current educational
11 system and develop a unique, transparent, and stable educational
12 funding system for Washington that supports the goals and the vision of
13 a world-class learner-focused K-12 educational system that were
14 established in the final Washington learns report.

15 This act is intended to make provision for some significant steps
16 towards a new basic education funding system and establishes a joint
17 task force to address the details and next steps beyond the 2007-2009
18 biennium that will be necessary to implement a new comprehensive K-12
19 finance formula or formulas that will provide Washington schools with
20 stable and adequate funding as the expectations for the K-12 system
21 continue to evolve.

22 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The joint task force on basic education
23 finance established under this section, with research support from the
24 Washington state institute for public policy, shall review the
25 definition of basic education and all current basic education funding
26 formulas, develop options for a new funding structure and all necessary
27 formulas, and propose a new definition of basic education that is
28 realigned with the new expectations of the state's education system as

1 established in the November 2006 final report of the Washington learns
2 steering committee and the basic education provisions established in
3 chapter 28A.150 RCW.

4 (2) The joint task force on basic education finance shall consist
5 of fourteen members:

6 (a) A chair of the task force with experience with Washington
7 finance issues including knowledge of the K-12 funding formulas,
8 appointed by the governor;

9 (b) Eight legislators, with two members from each of the two
10 largest caucuses of the senate appointed by the president of the senate
11 and two members from each of the two largest caucuses of the house of
12 representatives appointed by the speaker of the house of
13 representatives;

14 (c) A representative of the governor's office or the office of
15 financial management, designated by the governor;

16 (d) The superintendent of public instruction or the
17 superintendent's designee; and

18 (e) Three individuals with significant experience with Washington
19 K-12 finance issues, including the use and application of the current
20 basic education funding formulas, appointed by the governor. Each of
21 the two largest caucuses of the house of representatives and the senate
22 may submit names to the governor for consideration.

23 (3) In conducting research directed by the task force and
24 developing options for consideration by the task force, the Washington
25 state institute for public policy shall consult with stakeholders and
26 experts in the field. The institute may also request assistance from
27 the legislative evaluation and accountability program committee, the
28 office of the superintendent of public instruction, the office of
29 financial management, the house office of program research, and senate
30 committee services.

31 (4) In developing recommendations, the joint task force shall
32 review and build upon the following:

33 (a) Reports related to K-12 finance produced at the request of or
34 as a result of the Washington learns study, including reports completed
35 for or by the K-12 advisory committee;

36 (b) High-quality studies that are available; and

37 (c) Research and evaluation of the cost-benefits of various K-12

1 programs and services developed by the institute as directed by the
2 legislature in section 607(15), chapter 372, Laws of 2006.

3 (5) The Washington state institute for public policy shall provide
4 the following reports to the joint task force:

5 (a) An initial report by September 15, 2007, proposing an initial
6 plan of action, reporting dates, timelines for fulfilling the
7 requirements of section 3 of this act, and an initial timeline for a
8 phased-in implementation of a new funding system that does not exceed
9 six years;

10 (b) A second report by December 1, 2007, including implementing
11 legislation as necessary, for at least two but no more than four
12 options for allocating school employee compensation. One of the
13 options must be a redirection and prioritization within existing
14 resources based on research-proven education programs. The report must
15 also include a projection of the expected effect of the investment made
16 under the new funding structure. The second report shall also include
17 a finalized timeline and plan for addressing the remaining components
18 of a new funding system; and

19 (c) A final report with at least two but no more than four options
20 for revising the remaining K-12 funding structure, including
21 implementing legislation as necessary, and a timeline for phasing in
22 full adoption of the new funding structure. The final report shall be
23 submitted to the joint task force by September 15, 2008. One of the
24 options must be a redirection and prioritization within existing
25 resources based on research-proven education programs. The final
26 report must also include a projection of the expected effect of the
27 investment made under the new funding structure.

28 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) The funding structure alternatives
29 developed by the joint task force under section 2 of this act shall
30 take into consideration the legislative priorities in this section, to
31 the maximum extent possible and as appropriate to each formula.

32 (2) The funding structure should reflect the most effective
33 instructional strategies and service delivery models and be based on
34 research-proven education programs and activities with demonstrated
35 cost benefits. In reviewing the possible strategies and models to
36 include in the funding structure the task force shall, at a minimum,
37 consider the following issues:

- 1 (a) Professional development for all staff;
- 2 (b) Voluntary all-day kindergarten;
- 3 (c) Optimum class size, including different class sizes based on
- 4 grade level and ways to reduce class size;
- 5 (d) Focused instructional support for students and schools;
- 6 (e) Extended school day and school year options; and
- 7 (f) Health and safety requirements.

8 (3) The recommendations should provide maximum transparency of the
9 state's educational funding system in order to better help parents,
10 citizens, and school personnel in Washington understand how their
11 school system is funded.

12 (4) The funding structure should be linked to accountability for
13 student outcomes and performance.

14 (5) The task force shall recommend a compensation system for
15 instructional staff that includes pay for performance, knowledge, and
16 skills elements; elements to recognize assignments that are difficult;
17 and recognition for the professional teaching level certificate in the
18 salary allocation model. The task force shall also recommend a plan to
19 implement the revised compensation system.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** As the joint task force considers a new
21 definition of basic education as required under section 2 of this act,
22 the task force shall consider the following proposed basic education
23 goals and shall make recommendations regarding whether the proposed
24 goals provide adequate guidance and vision for the state's education
25 system in the twenty-first century:

26 "The goal of the basic education act for the schools of the state
27 of Washington set forth in this chapter shall be to provide students
28 with the opportunity to become responsible and respectful global
29 citizens, to contribute to their economic well-being and that of their
30 families and communities, to explore and understand diverse
31 perspectives, to enjoy productive and satisfying lives, and to develop
32 a public school system that focuses on the educational achievement of
33 all students, which includes high expectations for and prepares
34 students to achieve personal and academic success. To these ends, the
35 goals of each school district, with the involvement of parents and
36 community members, shall be to provide opportunities for every student
37 to develop the knowledge and skills essential to:

1 (1) Read with comprehension, write effectively, and communicate
2 successfully in a variety of ways and settings and with a variety of
3 audiences;

4 (2) Know and apply the core concepts and principles of mathematics;
5 social, physical, and life sciences; world history, cultures, and
6 geography; civics and arts; and health and fitness;

7 (3) Think analytically, logically, and creatively, and to integrate
8 different experiences and knowledge to form reasoned judgments and
9 solve problems;

10 (4) Understand the importance of work and personal financial
11 literacy and how performance, effort, and decisions directly affect
12 future career and educational opportunities; and

13 (5) Understand and be fully prepared to exercise the
14 responsibilities of civic participation in a pluralistic society.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** This act is necessary for the immediate
16 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
17 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
18 immediately."

19 Correct the title.

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