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HOUSE BILL 1052

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State of Washington                      60th Legislature                      2007 Regular Session

By Representatives Upthegrove, Hudgins, Pedersen, P. Sullivan,  
Wallace and Morris

Prefiled 1/5/2007.      Read first time 01/08/2007.      Referred to  
Committee on State Gov & Tribal Affairs.

1            AN ACT Relating to modifying the legislative youth advisory  
2 council; amending RCW 28A.300.801; creating a new section; and  
3 declaring an emergency.

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

5            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the legislative  
6 youth advisory council provides a unique opportunity for middle and  
7 high school students to be actively involved in government. Council  
8 members not only learn about, but exercise, the core values and  
9 democratic principles of our state and nation, along with the rights  
10 and responsibilities of citizenship and democratic civic involvement.  
11 As such, they are engaged in authentic practice of the essential  
12 academic learning requirements in civics. In the short time since its  
13 creation, the legislative youth advisory council has studied, debated,  
14 and begun to formulate positions and recommendations on such important  
15 topics as education reform, school finance, public school learning  
16 environments, health and fitness education, and standardized testing.  
17 The legislature continues to stress the importance of civics education  
18 and support the type of civic involvement by students exemplified by  
19 the legislative youth advisory council.

1           **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.300.801 and 2005 c 355 s 1 are each amended to  
2 read as follows:

3           (1) The legislative youth advisory council is established to  
4 examine issues of importance to youth, including but not limited to  
5 education, employment, strategies to increase youth participation in  
6 state and municipal government, safe environments for youth, substance  
7 abuse, emotional and physical health, foster care, poverty,  
8 homelessness, and youth access to services on a statewide and municipal  
9 basis.

10           (2) The council consists of twenty-two members as provided in this  
11 subsection who, at the time of appointment, are aged ~~((fourteen))~~  
12 twelve to eighteen. The council shall select a chair from among its  
13 members.

14           (a) Five members shall be selected by each of the two major  
15 caucuses in the senate, appointed by the secretary of the senate.

16           (b) Five members shall be selected by each of the two major  
17 caucuses in the house of representatives, appointed by the chief clerk  
18 of the house of representatives.

19           (c) The governor shall appoint two members.

20           (3) Except for initial members, members shall serve two-year terms,  
21 and if eligible, may be reappointed for subsequent two-year terms.  
22 One-half of the initial members shall be appointed to one-year terms,  
23 and these appointments shall be made in such a way as to preserve  
24 overall representation on the committee.

25           (4) Four members of the legislature shall serve on the council in  
26 an advisory capacity, with two of the members appointed by the  
27 president of the senate and two of the members appointed by the speaker  
28 of the house of representatives.

29           (5) The council shall have the following duties:

30           (a) Advising the legislature on proposed and pending legislation,  
31 including state budget expenditures and policy matters relating to  
32 youth;

33           (b) Advising the standing committees of the legislature and study  
34 commissions, committees, and task forces regarding issues relating to  
35 youth;

36           (c) Conducting periodic seminars for its members regarding  
37 leadership, government, and the legislature; ~~((and))~~

1           (d) Soliciting and accepting grants and donations from public and  
2 private sources to support the activities of the council; and

3           (e) Reporting annually by December 1st to the legislature on its  
4 activities, including proposed legislation that implements  
5 recommendations of the council.

6           ~~((+5))~~ (6) In carrying out its duties under ~~((subsection (4) of))~~  
7 this section, the council may meet at least three times but not more  
8 than six times per year, including not more than two public hearings on  
9 issues of importance to youth.

10           ~~((+6))~~ (7) Members shall be reimbursed as provided in RCW  
11 43.03.050 and 43.03.060.

12           ~~((+7))~~ (8) The office of superintendent of public instruction  
13 shall provide administration, coordination, and facilitation assistance  
14 to the council. The senate and house of representatives may provide  
15 policy and fiscal briefings and assistance with drafting proposed  
16 legislation. The senate and the house of representatives shall each  
17 develop internal policies relating to staff assistance provided to the  
18 council. Such policies may include applicable internal personnel and  
19 practices guidelines, resource use and expense reimbursement  
20 guidelines, and applicable ethics mandates. Provision of funds,  
21 resources, and staff, as well as the assignment and direction of staff,  
22 remains at all times within the sole discretion of the chamber making  
23 the provision.

24           ~~((+8))~~ (9) The office of superintendent of public instruction, the  
25 legislature, any agency of the legislature, and any official or  
26 employee of such office or agency are immune from liability for any  
27 injury that is incurred by or caused by a member of the youth advisory  
28 council and that occurs while the member of the council is performing  
29 duties of the council or is otherwise engaged in activities or  
30 receiving services for which reimbursement is allowed under subsection  
31 ~~((+6))~~ (7) of this section. The immunity provided by this subsection  
32 does not apply to an injury intentionally caused by the act or omission  
33 of an employee or official of the superintendent of public instruction  
34 or the legislature or any agency of the legislature.

35           ~~((+9) This section expires June 30, 2007.)~~

36           NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 3.** This act is necessary for the immediate

1 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the  
2 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect  
3 immediately.

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