
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2246

State of Washington 60th Legislature 2007 Regular Session

By House Committee on Early Learning & Children's Services
(originally sponsored by Representatives Kagi, Haler, Fromhold,
Wallace, Kenney, Dickerson, Morrell, Simpson, Conway and Ormsby)

READ FIRST TIME 2/28/07.

1 AN ACT Relating to the delivery of educational services to children
2 who are deaf and hearing impaired; amending RCW 72.40.010, 72.40.019,
3 72.40.024, 72.40.028, 72.40.120, 72.40.200, 72.40.210, 72.40.031,
4 72.42.010, 72.42.015, 72.42.016, 72.42.021, 72.42.041, 72.40.022,
5 72.40.070, 72.40.090, 72.40.220, 72.40.230, 72.40.240, 72.40.250,
6 72.40.260, 72.40.280, 72.42.060, 26.44.210, 28A.155.160, 28A.310.010,
7 28A.310.180, 28A.310.200, 28A.335.205, 28A.400.303, 28A.400.305,
8 28A.600.420, 41.40.088, and 70.198.020; adding new sections to chapter
9 72.42 RCW; creating new sections; repealing RCW 72.40.023; providing an
10 effective date; providing an expiration date; and declaring an
11 emergency.

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

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the education of
14 children who are deaf presents unique challenges because deafness is a
15 low-incidence disability and because deafness significantly impacts the
16 child's ability to access communication at home, at school, and in the
17 community. The legislature further finds that over the past fifty
18 years, there have been numerous advances in technology as well as a
19 growing awareness about the importance of delivering services to

1 children in a variety of modalities to support their early and
2 continued access to communication. The legislature intends to enhance
3 the coordination of regionally delivered services and supports for
4 children who are deaf and hearing impaired and to promote more
5 communication-rich learning environments for these children.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 72.42 RCW
7 to read as follows:

8 (1) There is established at Vancouver, Clark county, the Washington
9 state center for childhood deafness and hearing loss which shall be
10 housed at and include the school and related facilities formerly known
11 as the state school for the deaf. The center shall be under the
12 direction of the director and the board of trustees. The
13 superintendent and board of trustees of the Washington school for the
14 deaf as of the effective date of this act shall be the director and
15 board of trustees of the center.

16 (2) The center's primary functions shall be:

17 (a) Managing and supervising the Washington school for the deaf and
18 the applied research center located at the center;

19 (b) Providing statewide leadership and support for the coordination
20 of regionally delivered education services in the full range of
21 communication modalities, for children who are deaf and hearing
22 impaired; and

23 (c) Collaborating with public and private partners in the
24 development and operation of an applied research center for the
25 training and professional development of educators serving children who
26 are deaf and hearing impaired.

27 **Sec. 3.** RCW 72.40.010 and 2002 c 209 s 1 are each amended to read
28 as follows:

29 There ((are)) is established at Vancouver, Clark county, a school
30 which shall be known as the state school for the blind(~~(, and a~~
31 ~~separate school which shall be known as the state school for the~~
32 ~~deaf)~~). The primary purpose of the state school for the blind ((and
33 ~~the state school for the deaf)~~) is to educate and train ((hearing and))
34 visually impaired children.

35 The school for the blind shall be under the direction of the

1 superintendent with the advice of the board of trustees. ((The school
2 for the deaf shall be under the direction of the superintendent and the
3 board of trustees.))

4 **Sec. 4.** RCW 72.40.019 and 1985 c 378 s 14 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 The governor shall appoint a ((superintendent)) director for the
7 ((state school for the deaf)) Washington state center for childhood
8 deafness and hearing loss. The ((superintendent)) director shall have
9 a masters degree from an accredited college or university in school
10 administration or deaf education, five years of experience teaching or
11 providing habilitative services to deaf or hard of hearing students
12 ((in the classroom)), and three years administrative or supervisory
13 experience in programs for deaf or hard of hearing students.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** A new section is added to chapter 72.42 RCW
15 to read as follows:

16 In addition to any other powers and duties prescribed by law, the
17 director of the Washington state center for childhood deafness and
18 hearing loss:

19 (1) Shall be responsible for the supervision and management of the
20 center, including the Washington school for the deaf, and the property
21 of various kinds;

22 (2) Shall employ members of the faculty, administrative officers,
23 and other employees, who shall all be subject to chapter 41.06 RCW, the
24 state civil service law, unless specifically exempted by other
25 provisions of law;

26 (3) Shall provide technical assistance and support as appropriate
27 to local and regional efforts to build critical mass and
28 communication-rich networking opportunities for children who are deaf
29 or hearing impaired and their families;

30 (4) Shall establish the course of study including vocational
31 training and shall in collaboration with the department of social and
32 health services provide post-high school transition planning and
33 programming services to students who are deaf or hearing impaired, with
34 the assistance of the faculty and the approval of the board of
35 trustees;

1 (5) Shall, as approved by the board of trustees, control and
2 authorize the use of the facilities for night school, summer school,
3 public meetings, applied research and training for the instruction of
4 students who are deaf and hearing impaired, outreach and support to
5 families of children who are deaf and hearing impaired, or other
6 purposes consistent with the purposes of the center;

7 (6) Shall purchase all supplies and lease or purchase equipment and
8 other personal property needed for the operation or maintenance of the
9 center;

10 (7) Shall prepare, submit to the board of trustees for approval,
11 and administer the budget consistent with RCW 43.88.160 and the budget
12 and accounting act, chapter 43.88 RCW generally, as applicable;

13 (8) Shall provide technical assistance and support to educational
14 service districts for the regional delivery of a full range of
15 education services to students who are deaf and hard of hearing, which
16 includes American sign language, auditory oral education, total
17 communication, and signed exact English;

18 (9) As requested by educational service districts, shall recruit,
19 employ, and deploy itinerant teachers to provide in-district services
20 to children who are deaf or hearing impaired;

21 (10) May establish criteria, in addition to state certification,
22 for the teachers at the school and employees of the center;

23 (11) May establish, with the approval of the board of trustees, new
24 facilities as needs demand;

25 (12) May adopt rules, under chapter 34.05 RCW, as approved by the
26 board of trustees and as deemed necessary for the governance,
27 management, and operation of the center;

28 (13) May adopt rules, as approved by the board of trustees, for
29 pedestrian and vehicular traffic on property owned, operated, and
30 maintained by the center;

31 (14) Except as otherwise provided by law, may enter into contracts
32 as the director deems essential to the purpose of the center;

33 (15) May receive gifts, grants, conveyances, devises, and bequests
34 of real or personal property from whatever source, as may be made from
35 time to time, in trust or otherwise, whenever the terms and conditions
36 will aid in carrying out the programs of the center; sell, lease, or
37 exchange, invest, or expend the same or the proceeds, rents, profits,

1 and income thereof except as limited by the terms and conditions
2 thereof; and adopt rules to govern the receipt and expenditure of the
3 proceeds, rents, profits, and income thereof;

4 (16) May adopt rules, as approved by the board of trustees,
5 providing for the transferability of employees between the center and
6 the school for the blind consistent with collective bargaining
7 agreements in effect; and

8 (17) May adopt rules under chapter 34.05 RCW, as approved by the
9 board of trustees, and perform all other acts not forbidden by law as
10 the director deems necessary or appropriate to the administration of
11 the center.

12 **Sec. 6.** RCW 72.40.024 and 2002 c 209 s 4 are each amended to read
13 as follows:

14 In addition to the powers and duties under RCW 72.40.022 (~~and~~
15 ~~72.40.023~~) and section 5 of this act, the superintendent of (~~each~~)
16 the school for the blind and the director of the Washington state
17 center for childhood deafness and hearing loss shall:

18 (1) Monitor the location and educational placement of each student
19 reported to the superintendent(~~s~~) and the director by the educational
20 service district superintendents;

21 (2) Provide information about educational programs, instructional
22 techniques, materials, equipment, and resources available to students
23 with visual or auditory impairments to the parent or guardian,
24 educational service district superintendent, and the superintendent of
25 the school district where the student resides; and

26 (3) Serve as a consultant to the office of the superintendent of
27 public instruction, provide instructional leadership, and assist school
28 districts in improving their instructional programs for students with
29 visual or hearing impairments.

30 **Sec. 7.** RCW 72.40.028 and 2006 c 263 s 829 are each amended to
31 read as follows:

32 All teachers (~~at the state school for the deaf~~) employed by the
33 Washington state center for childhood deafness and hearing loss and the
34 state school for the blind shall meet all certification requirements
35 and the programs shall meet all accreditation requirements and conform
36 to the standards defined by law or by rule of the Washington

1 professional educator standards board or the office of the state
2 superintendent of public instruction. The superintendent(~~(s)~~) and the
3 director, by rule, may adopt additional educational standards for their
4 respective (~~(schools)~~) facilities. Salaries of all certificated
5 employees shall be set so as to conform to and be contemporary with
6 salaries paid to other certificated employees of similar background and
7 experience in the school district in which the program or facility is
8 located. The superintendent(~~(s)~~) and the director may provide for
9 provisional certification for teachers in their respective (~~(schools)~~)
10 facilities including certification for emergency, temporary,
11 substitute, or provisional duty.

12 **Sec. 8.** RCW 72.40.120 and 1991 c 65 s 1 are each amended to read
13 as follows:

14 Any appropriation for the (~~(school for the deaf)~~) Washington state
15 center for childhood deafness and hearing loss or the school for the
16 blind shall be made directly to the (~~(school for the deaf)~~) center or
17 the school for the blind.

18 **Sec. 9.** RCW 72.40.200 and 2000 c 125 s 1 are each amended to read
19 as follows:

20 The (~~(state school for the deaf)~~) Washington state center for
21 childhood deafness and hearing loss and the state school for the blind
22 shall promote the personal safety of students and protect the children
23 who attend from child abuse and neglect as defined in RCW 26.44.020.

24 **Sec. 10.** RCW 72.40.210 and 2000 c 125 s 2 are each amended to read
25 as follows:

26 The (~~(superintendents)~~) director of the (~~(state school for the~~
27 ~~deaf)~~) Washington state center for childhood deafness and hearing loss
28 and the superintendent of the state school for the blind or their
29 designees shall immediately report to the persons indicated the
30 following events:

31 (1) To the child's parent, custodian, or guardian:

32 (a) The death of the child;

33 (b) Hospitalization of a child in attendance or residence at the
34 (~~(school)~~) facility;

1 (c) Allegations of child abuse or neglect in which the parent's
2 child in attendance or residence at the (~~school~~) facility is the
3 alleged victim;

4 (d) Allegations of physical or sexual abuse in which the parent's
5 child in attendance or residence at the (~~school~~) facility is the
6 alleged perpetrator;

7 (e) Life-threatening illness;

8 (f) The attendance at the (~~school~~) facility of any child who is
9 a registered sex offender under RCW 9A.44.130 as permitted by RCW
10 4.24.550.

11 (2) Notification to the parent shall be made by the means most
12 likely to be received by the parent. If initial notification is made
13 by telephone, such notification shall be followed by notification in
14 writing within forty-eight hours after the initial (~~oral~~) verbal
15 contact is made.

16 NEW SECTION. Sec. 11. (1) The state school for the deaf is hereby
17 abolished and its powers, duties, and functions are hereby transferred
18 to the Washington state center for childhood deafness and hearing loss.
19 All references to the superintendent or the state school for the deaf
20 in the Revised Code of Washington shall be construed to mean the
21 director or the Washington state center for childhood deafness and
22 hearing loss.

23 (2)(a) All reports, documents, surveys, books, records, files,
24 papers, or written material in the possession of the state school for
25 the deaf shall be delivered to the custody of the Washington state
26 center for childhood deafness and hearing loss. All cabinets,
27 furniture, office equipment, motor vehicles, and other tangible
28 property employed by the state school for the deaf shall be made
29 available to the Washington state center for childhood deafness and
30 hearing loss. All funds, credits, or other assets held by the state
31 school for the deaf shall be assigned to the Washington state center
32 for childhood deafness and hearing loss.

33 (b) Any appropriations made to the state school for the deaf shall,
34 on the effective date of this section, be transferred and credited to
35 the Washington state center for childhood deafness and hearing loss.

36 (c) If any question arises as to the transfer of any personnel,
37 funds, books, documents, records, papers, files, equipment, or other

1 tangible property used or held in the exercise of the powers and the
2 performance of the duties and functions transferred, the director of
3 financial management shall make a determination as to the proper
4 allocation and certify the same to the state agencies concerned.

5 (3) All employees of the state school for the deaf are transferred
6 to the jurisdiction of the Washington state center for childhood
7 deafness and hearing loss. All employees classified under chapter
8 41.06 RCW, the state civil service law, are assigned to the Washington
9 state center for childhood deafness and hearing loss to perform their
10 usual duties upon the same terms as formerly, without any loss of
11 rights, subject to any action that may be appropriate thereafter in
12 accordance with the laws and rules governing state civil service.

13 (4) All rules and all pending business before the state school for
14 the deaf shall be continued and acted upon by the Washington state
15 center for childhood deafness and hearing loss. All existing contracts
16 and obligations shall remain in full force and shall be performed by
17 the Washington state center for childhood deafness and hearing loss.

18 (5) The transfer of the powers, duties, functions, and personnel of
19 the state school for the deaf shall not affect the validity of any act
20 performed before the effective date of this section.

21 (6) If apportionments of budgeted funds are required because of the
22 transfers directed by this section, the director of financial
23 management shall certify the apportionments to the agencies affected,
24 the state auditor, and the state treasurer. Each of these shall make
25 the appropriate transfer and adjustments in funds and appropriation
26 accounts and equipment records in accordance with the certification.

27 (7) Nothing contained in this section may be construed to alter any
28 existing collective bargaining unit or the provisions of any existing
29 collective bargaining agreement until the agreement has expired or
30 until the bargaining unit has been modified by action of the personnel
31 resources board as provided by law.

32 **Sec. 12.** RCW 72.40.031 and 1985 c 378 s 16 are each amended to
33 read as follows:

34 The school year for the state school for the blind and the
35 ((state)) school ((for the deaf)) located at the Washington state
36 center for childhood deafness and hearing loss shall commence on the
37 first day of July of each year and shall terminate on the 30th day of

1 June of the succeeding year. The regular school term shall be for a
2 period of nine months and shall commence as near as reasonably
3 practical at the time of the commencement of regular terms in ~~((the))~~
4 other public schools, with the equivalent number of days as are now
5 required by law, and the regulations of the superintendent of public
6 instruction as now or hereafter amended, during the school year in
7 ~~((the))~~ other public schools. The school and the center shall observe
8 all legal holidays, in the same manner as other agencies of state
9 government, and ~~((the schools))~~ will not be in session on such days and
10 such other days as may be approved by the ~~((respective))~~
11 superintendent~~((s))~~ or the director. During the period when the
12 school~~((s))~~ and the center are not in session during the regular school
13 term, the school~~((s))~~ and the center may be operated, subject to the
14 approval of the ~~((respective))~~ superintendent~~((s))~~ or the director, for
15 the instruction of students or for such other reasons which are in
16 furtherance of the objects and purposes of ~~((such schools))~~ the
17 respective facilities.

18 **Sec. 13.** RCW 72.42.010 and 2002 c 209 s 5 are each amended to read
19 as follows:

20 It is the intention of the legislature, in creating a board of
21 trustees for the ~~((state school for the deaf))~~ Washington state center
22 for childhood deafness and hearing loss to perform the duties set forth
23 in this chapter, that the board of trustees perform needed oversight
24 services to the governor and the legislature of the ~~((Washington state~~
25 ~~school for the deaf))~~ center in the development of programs for the
26 hearing impaired, and in the operation of the ~~((Washington state))~~
27 center, including the school ~~((for the deaf))~~ located at the center.

28 **Sec. 14.** RCW 72.42.015 and 1985 c 378 s 32 are each amended to
29 read as follows:

30 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise as used in this
31 chapter "~~((superintendent))~~ director" means ~~((superintendent))~~ the
32 director of the Washington state ~~((school for the deaf))~~ center for
33 childhood deafness and hearing loss.

34 **Sec. 15.** RCW 72.42.016 and 2002 c 209 s 6 are each amended to read
35 as follows:

1 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, as used in this
2 chapter:

3 (1) "Center" means the Washington state center for childhood
4 deafness and hearing loss; and

5 (2) "School" means the Washington ((state)) school for the deaf
6 located at the center.

7 **Sec. 16.** RCW 72.42.021 and 2002 c 209 s 7 are each amended to read
8 as follows:

9 (1) The governance of the center and the school shall be vested in
10 a board of trustees. The board shall consist of nine members appointed
11 by the governor, with the consent of the senate. The board shall be
12 composed of a resident from each of the state's congressional districts
13 and may include:

14 (a) One member who is deaf or hearing impaired;

15 (b) Two members who are experienced educational professionals;

16 (c) One member who is experienced in providing residential services
17 to youth; and

18 (d) One member who is the parent of a child who is deaf or hearing
19 impaired and who is receiving or has received educational services
20 related to deafness or hearing impairment from a public educational
21 institution.

22 (2) No voting trustee may be an employee of the school or the
23 center, a member of the board of directors of any school district, a
24 member of the governing board of any public or private educational
25 institution(~~(, a school district or educational service district~~
26 ~~administrator appointed after July 1, 1986,)) or an elected officer or
27 member of the legislative authority of any municipal corporation. No
28 more than two voting trustees may be school district or educational
29 service district administrators appointed after July 1, 1986.~~

30 (3) Trustees shall be appointed by the governor to serve a term of
31 five years, except that any person appointed to fill a vacancy
32 occurring prior to the expiration of a term shall be appointed within
33 sixty days of the vacancy and appointed only for the remainder of the
34 term. Of the initial members, three must be appointed for two-year
35 terms, three must be appointed for three-year terms, and the remainder
36 must be appointed for five-year terms.

1 (4) The board shall not be deemed unlawfully constituted and a
2 trustee shall not be deemed ineligible to serve the remainder of the
3 trustee's unexpired term on the board solely by reason of the
4 establishment of new or revised boundaries for congressional districts.
5 In such an event, each trustee may continue to serve in office for the
6 balance of the term for which he or she was appointed so long as the
7 trustee continues to reside within the boundaries of the congressional
8 district as they existed at the time of his or her appointment.
9 Vacancies which occur in a trustee position during the balance of any
10 term shall be filled pursuant to subsection (3) of this section by a
11 successor who resides within the boundaries of the congressional
12 district from which the member whose office was vacated was appointed
13 as they existed at the time of his or her appointment. At the
14 completion of such term, and thereafter, a successor shall be appointed
15 from the congressional district which corresponds in number with the
16 congressional district from which the incumbent was appointed.

17 **Sec. 17.** RCW 72.42.041 and 2002 c 209 s 8 are each amended to read
18 as follows:

19 The board of trustees of the ((~~school~~)) center:

20 (1) Shall adopt rules and regulations for its own governance;

21 (2) Shall direct the development of, approve, and monitor the
22 enforcement of policies, rules, and regulations pertaining to the
23 ((~~school~~)) center, including but not limited to:

24 (a) The use of classrooms and other facilities for summer or night
25 schools or for public meetings and any other uses consistent with the
26 mission of the center;

27 (b) Pedestrian and vehicular traffic on property owned, operated,
28 or maintained by the ((~~school~~)) center;

29 (c) Governance, management, and operation of the residential
30 facilities;

31 (d) Transferability of employees between the ((~~school for the~~
32 ~~deaf~~)) center and the school for the blind consistent with collective
33 bargaining agreements in effect; and

34 (e) Compliance with state and federal education civil rights laws
35 at the school;

36 (3) Shall develop a process for recommending candidates for the

1 position of ((~~superintendent~~)) director and upon a vacancy shall submit
2 a list of three qualified candidates for ((~~superintendent~~)) director to
3 the governor;

4 (4) Shall submit an evaluation of the ((~~superintendent~~)) director
5 to the governor by July 1st of each odd-numbered year that includes a
6 recommendation regarding the retention of the ((~~superintendent~~))
7 director;

8 (5) May recommend to the governor at any time that the
9 ((~~superintendent~~)) director be removed for conduct deemed by the board
10 to be detrimental to the interests of the ((~~school~~)) center;

11 (6) Shall prepare and submit by July 1st of each even-numbered year
12 a report to the governor and the appropriate committees of the
13 legislature which contains a detailed summary of the ((~~school's~~))
14 center's progress on performance objectives and the ((~~school's~~))
15 center's work, facility conditions, and revenues and costs of the
16 ((~~school~~)) center for the previous year and which contains those
17 recommendations it deems necessary and advisable for the governor and
18 the legislature to act on;

19 (7) Shall approve the ((~~school's~~)) center's budget and all funding
20 requests, both operating and capital, submitted to the governor;

21 (8) Shall direct and approve the development and implementation of
22 comprehensive programs of education, training, and as needed
23 residential living, such that students served by the ((~~school~~)) center
24 receive a challenging and quality education in a safe school
25 environment;

26 (9) Shall direct, monitor, and approve the implementation of a
27 comprehensive continuous quality improvement system for the ((~~school~~))
28 center;

29 (10) Shall monitor and inspect all existing facilities of the
30 ((~~school~~)) center and report its findings in its biennial report to the
31 governor and appropriate committees of the legislature; and

32 (11) May grant to every student of the school at the center, upon
33 graduation or completion of a program or course of study, a suitable
34 diploma, nonbaccalaureate degree, or certificate.

35 **Sec. 18.** RCW 72.40.022 and 2002 c 209 s 2 are each amended to read
36 as follows:

1 In addition to any other powers and duties prescribed by law, the
2 superintendent of the state school for the blind:

3 (1) Shall have full control of the school and the property of
4 various kinds.

5 (2) May establish criteria, in addition to state certification, for
6 teachers at the school.

7 (3) Shall employ members of the faculty, administrative officers,
8 and other employees, who shall all be subject to chapter 41.06 RCW, the
9 state civil service law, unless specifically exempted by other
10 provisions of law.

11 (4) Shall establish the course of study including vocational
12 training, with the assistance of the faculty and the advice of the
13 board of trustees.

14 (5) May establish new facilities as needs demand.

15 (6) May adopt rules, under chapter 34.05 RCW, as deemed necessary
16 for the government, management, and operation of the housing
17 facilities.

18 (7) Shall control the use of the facilities and authorize the use
19 of the facilities for night school, summer school, public meetings, or
20 other purposes consistent with the purposes of the school.

21 (8) May adopt rules for pedestrian and vehicular traffic on
22 property owned, operated, and maintained by the school.

23 (9) Shall purchase all supplies and lease or purchase equipment and
24 other personal property needed for the operation or maintenance of the
25 school.

26 (10) Except as otherwise provided by law, may enter into contracts
27 as the superintendent deems essential to the purpose of the school.

28 (11) May receive gifts, grants, conveyances, devises, and bequests
29 of real or personal property from whatever source, as may be made from
30 time to time, in trust or otherwise, whenever the terms and conditions
31 will aid in carrying out the programs of the school; sell, lease or
32 exchange, invest, or expend the same or the proceeds, rents, profits,
33 and income thereof except as limited by the terms and conditions
34 thereof; and adopt rules to govern the receipt and expenditure of the
35 proceeds, rents, profits, and income thereof.

36 (12) May, except as otherwise provided by law, enter into contracts
37 the superintendent deems essential for the operation of the school.

1 (13) May adopt rules providing for the transferability of employees
2 between the ((~~school for the deaf~~)) Washington state center for
3 childhood deafness and hearing loss and the school for the blind
4 consistent with collective bargaining agreements in effect.

5 (14) Shall prepare and administer the school's budget consistent
6 with RCW 43.88.160 and the budget and accounting act, chapter 43.88 RCW
7 generally, as applicable.

8 (15) May adopt rules under chapter 34.05 RCW and perform all other
9 acts not forbidden by law as the superintendent deems necessary or
10 appropriate to the administration of the school.

11 **Sec. 19.** RCW 72.40.070 and 1985 c 378 s 22 are each amended to
12 read as follows:

13 It shall be the duty of each educational service district to make
14 a full and specific report of visually or hearing impaired youth to the
15 superintendent of the school for the blind or the ((~~school for the~~
16 ~~deaf~~)) director of the Washington state center for childhood deafness
17 and hearing loss, as the case may be and the superintendent of public
18 instruction, annually. The superintendent of public instruction shall
19 report about the hearing or visually impaired youth to the school for
20 the blind and the ((~~school for the deaf~~)) Washington state center for
21 childhood deafness and hearing loss, as the case may be, annually.

22 **Sec. 20.** RCW 72.40.090 and 1993 c 147 s 5 are each amended to read
23 as follows:

24 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the state school for
25 the blind and the ((~~school for the deaf~~)) Washington state center for
26 childhood deafness and hearing loss may arrange and provide for weekend
27 transportation to and from ((~~schools~~)) the facilities. This
28 transportation shall be at no cost to students and parents, as allowed
29 within the appropriations allocated to the ((~~schools~~)) facilities.

30 **Sec. 21.** RCW 72.40.220 and 2000 c 125 s 3 are each amended to read
31 as follows:

32 (1) The ((~~superintendents~~)) director of the ((~~state school for the~~
33 ~~deaf~~)) Washington state center for childhood deafness and hearing loss
34 and the superintendent of the state school for the blind shall maintain

1 in writing and implement behavior management policies and procedures
2 that accomplish the following:

3 (a) Support the child's appropriate social behavior, self-control,
4 and the rights of others;

5 (b) Foster dignity and self-respect for the child;

6 (c) Reflect the ages and developmental levels of children in care.

7 (2) The (~~state school for the deaf~~) Washington state center for
8 childhood deafness and hearing loss and the state school for the blind
9 shall use proactive, positive behavior support techniques to manage
10 potential child behavior problems. These techniques shall include but
11 not be limited to:

12 (a) Organization of the physical environment and staffing patterns
13 to reduce factors leading to behavior incidents;

14 (b) Intervention before behavior becomes disruptive, in the least
15 invasive and least restrictive manner available;

16 (c) Emphasis on verbal deescalation to calm the upset child;

17 (d) Redirection strategies to present the child with alternative
18 resolution choices.

19 **Sec. 22.** RCW 72.40.230 and 2000 c 125 s 4 are each amended to read
20 as follows:

21 (1) The (~~state school for the deaf~~) Washington state center for
22 childhood deafness and hearing loss and the state school for the blind
23 shall ensure that all staff, within two months of beginning employment,
24 complete a minimum of fifteen hours of job orientation which shall
25 include, but is not limited to, presentation of the standard operating
26 procedures manual for each (~~school~~) facility, describing all policies
27 and procedures specific to the (~~school~~) facility.

28 (2) The (~~state school for the deaf~~) Washington state center for
29 childhood deafness and hearing loss and the state school for the blind
30 shall ensure that all new staff receive thirty-two hours of job
31 specific training within ninety days of employment which shall include,
32 but is not limited to, promoting and protecting student personal
33 safety. All staff shall receive thirty-two hours of ongoing training
34 in these areas every two years.

35 **Sec. 23.** RCW 72.40.240 and 2000 c 125 s 5 are each amended to read
36 as follows:

1 The residential program at the (~~state school for the deaf~~)
2 Washington state center for childhood deafness and hearing loss and the
3 state school for the blind shall employ residential staff in sufficient
4 numbers to ensure the physical and emotional needs of the residents are
5 met. Residential staff shall be on duty in sufficient numbers to
6 ensure the safety of the children residing there.

7 For purposes of this section, "residential staff" means staff in
8 charge of supervising the day-to-day living situation of the children
9 in the residential portion of the (~~schools~~) facilities.

10 **Sec. 24.** RCW 72.40.250 and 2000 c 125 s 6 are each amended to read
11 as follows:

12 In addition to the powers and duties under RCW 72.40.022 and
13 72.40.024, the (~~superintendents~~) director of the (~~state school for~~
14 ~~the deaf~~) Washington state center for childhood deafness and hearing
15 loss and the superintendent of the state school for the blind shall:

16 (1) Develop written procedures for the supervision of employees and
17 volunteers who have the potential for contact with students. Such
18 procedures shall be designed to prevent child abuse and neglect by
19 providing for adequate supervision of such employees and volunteers,
20 taking into consideration such factors as the student population
21 served, architectural factors, and the size of the facility. Such
22 procedures shall include, but need not be limited to, the following:

23 (a) Staffing patterns and the rationale for such;

24 (b) Responsibilities of supervisors;

25 (c) The method by which staff and volunteers are made aware of the
26 identity of all supervisors, including designated on-site supervisors;

27 (d) Provision of written supervisory guidelines to employees and
28 volunteers;

29 (e) Periodic supervisory conferences for employees and volunteers;
30 and

31 (f) Written performance evaluations of staff to be conducted by
32 supervisors in a manner consistent with applicable provisions of the
33 civil service law.

34 (2) Develop written procedures for the protection of students when
35 there is reason to believe an incident has occurred which would render
36 a (~~child~~) minor student an abused or neglected child within the

1 meaning of RCW 26.44.020. Such procedures shall include, but need not
2 be limited to, the following:

3 (a) Investigation. Immediately upon notification that a report of
4 child abuse or neglect has been made to the department of social and
5 health services or a law enforcement agency, the superintendent or the
6 director shall:

7 (i) Preserve any potential evidence through such actions as
8 securing the area where suspected abuse or neglect occurred;

9 (ii) Obtain proper and prompt medical evaluation and treatment, as
10 needed, with documentation of any evidence of abuse or neglect; and

11 (iii) Provide necessary assistance to the department of social and
12 health services and local law enforcement in their investigations;

13 (b) Safety. Upon notification that a report of suspected child
14 abuse or neglect has been made to the department of social and health
15 services or a law enforcement agency, the superintendent or the
16 director or his or her designee, with consideration for causing as
17 little disruption as possible to the daily routines of the students,
18 shall evaluate the situation and immediately take appropriate action to
19 assure the health and safety of the students involved in the report and
20 of any other students similarly situated, and take such additional
21 action as is necessary to prevent future acts of abuse or neglect.
22 Such action may include:

23 (i) Consistent with federal and state law:

24 (A) Removing the alleged perpetrator from the school;

25 (B) Increasing the degree of supervision of the alleged
26 perpetrator; and

27 (C) Initiating appropriate disciplinary action against the alleged
28 perpetrator;

29 (ii) Provision of increased training and increased supervision to
30 volunteers and staff pertinent to the prevention and remediation of
31 abuse and neglect;

32 (iii) Temporary removal of the students from a program and
33 reassignment of the students within the school, as an emergency
34 measure, if it is determined that there is a risk to the health or
35 safety of such students in remaining in that program. Whenever a
36 student is removed, pursuant to this subsection (2)(b)(iii), from a
37 special education program or service specified in his or her

1 individualized education program, the action shall be reviewed in an
2 individualized education program meeting; and

3 (iv) Provision of counseling to the students involved in the report
4 or any other students, as appropriate;

5 (c) Corrective action plans. Upon receipt of the results of an
6 investigation by the department of social and health services pursuant
7 to a report of suspected child abuse or neglect, the superintendent or
8 the director, after consideration of any recommendations by the
9 department of social and health services for preventive and remedial
10 action, shall implement a written plan of action designed to assure the
11 continued health and safety of students and to provide for the
12 prevention of future acts of abuse or neglect.

13 **Sec. 25.** RCW 72.40.260 and 2000 c 125 s 7 are each amended to read
14 as follows:

15 In consideration of the needs and circumstances of the program, the
16 (~~state school for the deaf~~) Washington state center for childhood
17 deafness and hearing loss and the state school for the blind shall
18 provide instruction to all students in techniques and procedures which
19 will enable the students to protect themselves from abuse and neglect.
20 Such instruction shall be described in a written plan to be submitted
21 to the board of trustees for review and approval, and shall be:

22 (1) Appropriate for the age, individual needs, and particular
23 circumstances of students, including the existence of mental, physical,
24 emotional, or sensory disabilities;

25 (2) Provided at different times throughout the year in a manner
26 which will ensure that all students receive such instruction; and

27 (3) Provided by individuals who possess appropriate knowledge and
28 training, documentation of which shall be maintained by the school.

29 **Sec. 26.** RCW 72.40.280 and 2002 c 208 s 2 are each amended to read
30 as follows:

31 (1) The department of social and health services must periodically
32 monitor the residential program at the (~~state school for the deaf~~)
33 Washington state center for childhood deafness and hearing loss,
34 including but not limited to examining the residential-related policies
35 and procedures as well as the residential facilities. The department
36 of social and health services must make recommendations to the

1 ((~~school's superintendent~~)) center's director and the board of trustees
2 or its successor board on health and safety improvements related to
3 child safety and well-being. The department of social and health
4 services must conduct the monitoring reviews at least ((~~quarterly until~~
5 ~~December 1, 2006~~)) annually. The center may from time to time request
6 technical assistance from the department of social and health services.

7 (2) The department of social and health services must conduct a
8 comprehensive child health and safety review, as defined in rule, of
9 the residential program at the ((~~state school for the deaf~~)) Washington
10 state center for childhood deafness and hearing loss every three years.
11 The department of social and health services must deliver the first
12 health and safety review to the governor, the legislature, the
13 ((~~school's superintendent~~)) center's director, and the ((~~school's~~))
14 center's board of trustees or successor board by December 1, 2004.

15 (3) The ((~~state school for the deaf~~)) Washington state center for
16 childhood deafness and hearing loss must provide the department of
17 social and health services' staff with full and complete access to all
18 records and documents that the department staff may request to carry
19 out the requirements of this section. The department of social and
20 health services must have full and complete access to all students and
21 staff of the ((~~state school for the deaf~~)) Washington state center for
22 childhood deafness and hearing loss to conduct interviews to carry out
23 the requirements of this section.

24 (4) For the purposes of this section, the department of social and
25 health services must use the safety standards established in this
26 chapter when conducting the reviews.

27 **Sec. 27.** RCW 72.42.060 and 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 34 s 168 are each
28 amended to read as follows:

29 Each member of the board of trustees shall receive travel expenses
30 as provided in RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060 as now existing or hereafter
31 amended, and such payments shall be a proper charge to any funds
32 appropriated or allocated for the support of the ((~~state school for the~~
33 ~~deaf~~)) Washington state center for childhood deafness and hearing loss.

34 **Sec. 28.** RCW 26.44.210 and 2002 c 208 s 1 are each amended to read
35 as follows:

36 (1) The department must investigate referrals of alleged child

1 abuse or neglect occurring at the (~~state school for the deaf~~)
2 Washington state center for childhood deafness and hearing loss,
3 including alleged incidents involving students abusing other students;
4 determine whether there is a finding of abuse or neglect; and determine
5 whether a referral to law enforcement is appropriate under this
6 chapter.

7 (2) The department must send a copy of the investigation report,
8 including the finding, regarding any incidents of alleged child abuse
9 or neglect at the (~~state school for the deaf~~) Washington state center
10 for childhood deafness and hearing loss to the (~~school's~~
11 ~~superintendent~~) center's director. The department may include
12 recommendations to the (~~superintendent~~) director and the board of
13 trustees or its successor board for increasing the safety of the
14 school's students.

15 **Sec. 29.** RCW 28A.155.160 and 1997 c 104 s 3 are each amended to
16 read as follows:

17 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the office of the
18 superintendent of public instruction, the Washington state (~~school for~~
19 ~~the deaf~~) center for childhood deafness and hearing loss, the
20 Washington state school for the blind, school districts, educational
21 service districts, and all other state and local government educational
22 agencies and the department of services for the blind, the department
23 of social and health services, and all other state and local government
24 agencies concerned with the care, education, or habilitation or
25 rehabilitation of children with disabilities may enter into interagency
26 cooperative agreements for the purpose of providing assistive
27 technology devices and services to children with disabilities. Such
28 arrangements may include but are not limited to interagency agreements
29 for the acquisition, including joint funding, maintenance, loan, sale,
30 lease, or transfer of assistive technology devices and for the
31 provision of assistive technology services including but not limited to
32 assistive technology assessments and training.

33 For the purposes of this section, "assistive device" means any
34 item, piece of equipment, or product system, whether acquired
35 commercially off-the-shelf, modified, or customized, that is used to
36 increase, maintain, or improve functional capabilities of children with
37 disabilities. The term "assistive technology service" means any

1 service that directly assists a child with a disability in the
2 selection, acquisition, or use of an assistive technology device.
3 Assistive technology service includes:

4 (1) The evaluation of the needs of a child with a disability,
5 including a functional evaluation of the child in the child's customary
6 environment;

7 (2) Purchasing, leasing, or otherwise providing for the acquisition
8 of assistive technology devices by children with disabilities;

9 (3) Selecting, designing, fitting, customizing, adapting, applying,
10 retaining, repairing, or replacing of assistive technology devices;

11 (4) Coordinating and using other therapies, interventions, or
12 services with assistive technology devices, such as those associated
13 with existing education and rehabilitation plans and programs;

14 (5) Training or technical assistance for a child with a disability
15 or if appropriate, the child's family; and

16 (6) Training or technical assistance for professionals, including
17 individuals providing education and rehabilitation services, employers,
18 or other individuals who provide services to, employ, or are otherwise
19 substantially involved in the major life functions of children with
20 disabilities.

21 **Sec. 30.** RCW 28A.310.010 and 1988 c 65 s 1 are each amended to
22 read as follows:

23 It shall be the intent and purpose of this chapter to establish
24 educational service districts as regional agencies which are intended
25 to:

26 (1) Provide cooperative and informational services to local school
27 districts;

28 (2) Assist the superintendent of public instruction and the state
29 board of education in the performance of their respective statutory or
30 constitutional duties; and

31 (3) Provide services to school districts and to the (~~school for~~
32 ~~the deaf~~) Washington state center for childhood deafness and hearing
33 loss and the school for the blind to assure equal educational
34 opportunities.

35 **Sec. 31.** RCW 28A.310.180 and 1990 c 33 s 276 are each amended to
36 read as follows:

1 In addition to other powers and duties as provided by law, every
2 educational service district board shall:

3 (1) Comply with rules or regulations of the state board of
4 education and the superintendent of public instruction.

5 (2) If the district board deems necessary, establish and operate
6 for the schools within the boundaries of the educational service
7 district a depository and distribution center for films, tapes, charts,
8 maps, and other instructional material as recommended by the school
9 district superintendents within the service area of the educational
10 service district: PROVIDED, That the district may also provide the
11 services of the depository and distribution center to private schools
12 within the district so long as such private schools pay such fees that
13 reflect actual costs for services and the use of instructional
14 materials as may be established by the educational service district
15 board.

16 (3) Establish cooperative service programs for school districts
17 within the educational service district and joint purchasing programs
18 for schools within the educational service district pursuant to RCW
19 28A.320.080(3): PROVIDED, That on matters relating to cooperative
20 service programs the board and superintendent of the educational
21 service district shall seek the prior advice of the superintendents of
22 local school districts within the educational service district.

23 (4) Establish direct student service programs for school districts
24 within the educational service district including pupil transportation.
25 However, for the provision of state-funded pupil transportation for
26 special education cooperatives programs for special education conducted
27 under RCW 28A.155.010 through 28A.155.100, the educational service
28 district, with the consent of the participating school districts, shall
29 be entitled to receive directly state apportionment funds for that
30 purpose: PROVIDED, That the board of directors and superintendent of
31 a local school district request the educational service district to
32 perform said service or services: PROVIDED FURTHER, That the
33 educational service district board of directors and superintendents
34 agree to provide the requested services: PROVIDED, FURTHER, That the
35 provisions of chapter 39.34 RCW are strictly adhered to: PROVIDED
36 FURTHER, That the educational service district board of directors may
37 contract with the (~~school for the deaf~~) Washington state center for

1 childhood deafness and hearing loss and the school for the blind to
2 provide transportation services.

3 **Sec. 32.** RCW 28A.310.200 and 2006 c 263 s 610 are each amended to
4 read as follows:

5 In addition to other powers and duties as provided by law, every
6 educational service district board shall:

7 (1) Approve the budgets of the educational service district in
8 accordance with the procedures provided for in this chapter;

9 (2) Meet regularly according to the schedule adopted at the
10 organization meeting and in special session upon the call of the chair
11 or a majority of the board;

12 (3) Approve the selection of educational service district personnel
13 and clerical staff as provided in RCW 28A.310.230;

14 (4) Fix the amount of and approve the bonds for those educational
15 service district employees designated by the board as being in need of
16 bonding;

17 (5) Keep in the educational service district office a full and
18 correct transcript of the boundaries of each school district within the
19 educational service district;

20 (6) Acquire by borrowing funds or by purchase, lease, devise,
21 bequest, and gift and otherwise contract for real and personal property
22 necessary for the operation of the educational service district and to
23 the execution of the duties of the board and superintendent thereof and
24 sell, lease, or otherwise dispose of that property not necessary for
25 district purposes. No real property shall be acquired or alienated
26 without the prior approval of the superintendent of public instruction
27 and the acquisition or alienation of all such property shall be subject
28 to such provisions as the superintendent may establish. When borrowing
29 funds for the purpose of acquiring property, the educational service
30 district board shall pledge as collateral the property to be acquired.
31 Borrowing shall be evidenced by a note or other instrument between the
32 district and the lender;

33 (7) Under RCW 28A.310.010, upon the written request of the board of
34 directors of a local school district or districts served by the
35 educational service district, the educational service district board of
36 directors may provide cooperative and informational services not in
37 conflict with other law that provide for the development and

1 implementation of programs, activities, services, or practices that
2 support the education of preschool through twelfth grade students in
3 the public schools or that support the effective, efficient, or safe
4 management and operation of the school district or districts served by
5 the educational service district;

6 (8) Adopt such bylaws and rules for its own operation as it deems
7 necessary or appropriate; and

8 (9) Enter into contracts, including contracts with common and
9 educational service districts and the (~~school for the deaf~~)
10 Washington state center for childhood deafness and hearing loss and the
11 school for the blind for the joint financing of cooperative service
12 programs conducted pursuant to RCW 28A.310.180(3), and employ
13 consultants and legal counsel relating to any of the duties, functions,
14 and powers of the educational service districts.

15 **Sec. 33.** RCW 28A.335.205 and 1997 c 104 s 2 are each amended to
16 read as follows:

17 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the office of the
18 superintendent of public instruction, the Washington state school for
19 the blind, the Washington state (~~school for the deaf~~) center for
20 childhood deafness and hearing loss, school districts, educational
21 service districts, and all other state or local governmental agencies
22 concerned with education may loan, lease, sell, or transfer assistive
23 devices for the use and benefit of children with disabilities to
24 children with disabilities or their parents or to any other public or
25 private nonprofit agency providing services to or on behalf of
26 individuals with disabilities including but not limited to any agency
27 providing educational, health, or rehabilitation services. The notice
28 requirement in RCW 28A.335.180 does not apply to the loan, lease, sale,
29 or transfer of such assistive devices. The sale or transfer of such
30 devices is authorized under this section regardless of whether or not
31 the devices have been declared surplus. The sale or transfer shall be
32 recorded in an agreement between the parties and based upon the item's
33 depreciated value.

34 For the purposes of this section, "assistive device" means any
35 item, piece of equipment, or product system, whether acquired
36 commercially off-the-shelf, modified, or customized, that is used to

1 increase, maintain, or improve functional capabilities of children with
2 disabilities.

3 For the purpose of implementing this section, each educational
4 agency shall establish and maintain an inventory of assistive
5 technology devices in its possession that exceed one hundred dollars
6 and, for each such device, shall establish a value, which shall be
7 adjusted annually to reflect depreciation.

8 This section shall not enhance or diminish the obligation of school
9 districts to provide assistive technology to children with disabilities
10 where needed to achieve a free and appropriate public education and
11 equal opportunity in accessing academic and extracurricular activities.

12 **Sec. 34.** RCW 28A.400.303 and 2001 c 296 s 3 are each amended to
13 read as follows:

14 School districts, educational service districts, the (~~state school~~
15 ~~for the deaf~~) Washington state center for childhood deafness and
16 hearing loss, the state school for the blind, and their contractors
17 hiring employees who will have regularly scheduled unsupervised access
18 to children shall require a record check through the Washington state
19 patrol criminal identification system under RCW 43.43.830 through
20 43.43.834, 10.97.030, and 10.97.050 and through the federal bureau of
21 investigation before hiring an employee. The record check shall
22 include a fingerprint check using a complete Washington state criminal
23 identification fingerprint card. The requesting entity shall provide
24 a copy of the record report to the applicant. When necessary,
25 applicants may be employed on a conditional basis pending completion of
26 the investigation. If the applicant has had a record check within the
27 previous two years, the district, the (~~state school for the deaf~~)
28 Washington state center for childhood deafness and hearing loss, the
29 state school for the blind, or contractor may waive the requirement.
30 The district, pursuant to chapter 41.59 or 41.56 RCW, the (~~state~~
31 ~~school for the deaf~~) Washington state center for childhood deafness
32 and hearing loss, the state school for the blind, or contractor hiring
33 the employee shall determine who shall pay costs associated with the
34 record check.

35 **Sec. 35.** RCW 28A.400.305 and 2001 c 296 s 4 are each amended to
36 read as follows:

1 The superintendent of public instruction shall adopt rules as
2 necessary under chapter 34.05 RCW on record check information. The
3 rules shall include, but not be limited to the following:

4 (1) Written procedures providing a school district, (~~state school~~
5 ~~for the deaf~~) Washington state center for childhood deafness and
6 hearing loss, or state school for the blind employee or applicant for
7 certification or employment access to and review of information
8 obtained based on the record check required under RCW 28A.400.303; and

9 (2) Written procedures limiting access to the superintendent of
10 public instruction record check data base to only those individuals
11 processing record check information at the office of the superintendent
12 of public instruction, the appropriate school district or districts,
13 the (~~state school for the deaf~~) Washington state center for childhood
14 deafness and hearing loss, the state school for the blind, and the
15 appropriate educational service district or districts.

16 **Sec. 36.** RCW 28A.600.420 and 1997 c 265 s 5 are each amended to
17 read as follows:

18 (1) Any elementary or secondary school student who is determined to
19 have carried a firearm onto, or to have possessed a firearm on, public
20 elementary or secondary school premises, public school-provided
21 transportation, or areas of facilities while being used exclusively by
22 public schools, shall be expelled from school for not less than one
23 year under RCW 28A.600.010. The superintendent of the school district,
24 educational service district, (~~state school for the deaf~~) or state
25 school for the blind, or the director of the Washington state center
26 for childhood deafness and hearing loss, may modify the expulsion of a
27 student on a case-by-case basis.

28 (2) For purposes of this section, "firearm" means a firearm as
29 defined in 18 U.S.C. Sec. 921, and a "firearm" as defined in RCW
30 9.41.010.

31 (3) This section shall be construed in a manner consistent with the
32 individuals with disabilities education act, 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1401 et
33 seq.

34 (4) Nothing in this section prevents a public school district,
35 educational service district, the (~~state school for the deaf~~)
36 Washington state center for childhood deafness and hearing loss, or the

1 state school for the blind if it has expelled a student from such
2 student's regular school setting from providing educational services to
3 the student in an alternative setting.

4 (5) This section does not apply to:

5 (a) Any student while engaged in military education authorized by
6 school authorities in which rifles are used but not other firearms; or

7 (b) Any student while involved in a convention, showing,
8 demonstration, lecture, or firearms safety course authorized by school
9 authorities in which the rifles of collectors or instructors are
10 handled or displayed but not other firearms; or

11 (c) Any student while participating in a rifle competition
12 authorized by school authorities.

13 (6) A school district may suspend or expel a student for up to one
14 year subject to subsections (1), (3), (4), and (5) of this section, if
15 the student acts with malice as defined under RCW 9A.04.110 and
16 displays an instrument that appeared [appears] to be a firearm, on
17 public elementary or secondary school premises, public school-provided
18 transportation, or areas of facilities while being used exclusively by
19 public schools.

20 **Sec. 37.** RCW 41.40.088 and 2000 c 247 s 107 are each amended to
21 read as follows:

22 (1) A plan 1 member who is employed by a school district or
23 districts, an educational service district, the ((~~state school for the~~
24 ~~deaf~~)) Washington state center for childhood deafness and hearing loss,
25 the state school for the blind, institutions of higher education, or
26 community colleges:

27 (a) Shall receive a service credit month for each month of the
28 period from September through August of the following year if he or she
29 is employed in an eligible position, earns compensation earnable for
30 six hundred thirty hours or more during that period, and is employed
31 during nine months of that period, except that a member may not receive
32 credit for any period prior to the member's employment in an eligible
33 position;

34 (b) If a member in an eligible position does not meet the
35 requirements of (a) of this subsection, the member is entitled to a
36 service credit month for each month of the period he or she earns
37 earnable compensation for seventy or more hours; and the member is

1 entitled to a one-quarter service credit month for those calendar
2 months during which he or she earned compensation for less than seventy
3 hours.

4 (2) Except for any period prior to the member's employment in an
5 eligible position, a plan 2 or plan 3 member who is employed by a
6 school district or districts, an educational service district, the
7 state school for the blind, the ~~((state school for the deaf))~~
8 Washington state center for childhood deafness and hearing loss,
9 institutions of higher education, or community colleges:

10 (a) Shall receive a service credit month for each month of the
11 period from September through August of the following year if he or she
12 is employed in an eligible position, earns compensation earnable for
13 eight hundred ten hours or more during that period, and is employed
14 during nine months of that period;

15 (b) If a member in an eligible position for each month of the
16 period from September through August of the following year does not
17 meet the hours requirements of (a) of this subsection, the member is
18 entitled to one-half service credit month for each month of the period
19 if he or she earns earnable compensation for at least six hundred
20 thirty hours but less than eight hundred ten hours during that period,
21 and is employed nine months of that period;

22 (c) In all other instances, a member in an eligible position is
23 entitled to service credit months as follows:

24 (i) One service credit month for each month in which compensation
25 is earned for ninety or more hours;

26 (ii) One-half service credit month for each month in which
27 compensation is earned for at least seventy hours but less than ninety
28 hours; and

29 (iii) One-quarter service credit month for each month in which
30 compensation is earned for less than seventy hours;

31 (d) After August 31, 2000, school districts and educational service
32 districts will no longer be employers for the public employees'
33 retirement system plan 2 or plan 3.

34 (3) The department shall adopt rules implementing this section.

35 **Sec. 38.** RCW 70.198.020 and 2004 c 47 s 2 are each amended to read
36 as follows:

37 (1) There is established an advisory council in the department of

1 social and health services for the purpose of advancing the development
2 of a comprehensive and effective statewide system to provide prompt and
3 effective early interventions for children in the state who are deaf or
4 hard of hearing and their families.

5 (2) Members of the advisory council shall have training,
6 experience, or interest in hearing loss in children. Membership shall
7 include, but not be limited to, the following: Pediatricians;
8 audiologists; teachers of the deaf and hard of hearing; parents of
9 children who are deaf or hard of hearing; a representative from the
10 Washington state (~~school for the deaf~~) center for childhood deafness
11 and hearing loss; and representatives of the infant toddler early
12 intervention program in the department of social and health services,
13 the department of health, and the office of the superintendent of
14 public instruction.

15 NEW SECTION. Sec. 39. (1) The director of the Washington state
16 center for childhood deafness and hearing loss shall convene an
17 advisory panel for the purpose of implementing in two educational
18 service districts a structured program for delivering education
19 services to children who are deaf and hearing impaired. The advisory
20 panel shall consist of the following persons:

21 (a) A representative from the Washington sensory disabilities
22 services program to be selected by the superintendent of public
23 instruction;

24 (b) A representative from the office of deaf and hard of hearing
25 services to be selected by the secretary of the department of social
26 and health services;

27 (c) One person representing educational service district
28 superintendents and one representing school district superintendents,
29 both of whom shall be selected by the Washington association of school
30 administrators;

31 (d) Four representatives selected by the governor, one from the
32 department of health, one from the department of early learning, and
33 two from nongovernmental entities providing education services to
34 children who are deaf or hearing impaired, including one provider of
35 auditory oral education and one provider of total communication
36 services; and

1 (e) In addition to the director, one representative from the
2 Washington state center for childhood deafness and hearing loss to be
3 selected by the board of trustees of the center.

4 (2) Selection of advisory panel members shall be completed not
5 later than June 1, 2007. The panel shall collectively establish a
6 meeting schedule to support completion of its work.

7 (3) The panel shall develop a structure for implementing regional
8 education programs at two demonstration sites that:

9 (a) Are established within an educational service district and
10 managed through shared governance by the school districts within the
11 educational service districts;

12 (b) Collaborate and partner with, enhance, and avoid duplication of
13 existing and available services and programs, both public and private;

14 (c) Provide services at one or more central locations in the
15 educational service districts;

16 (d) Provide services to students in their resident districts,
17 including students with hearing impairments who may not qualify for
18 special education services;

19 (e) Include educational and transportation services for children,
20 consultation for teachers and staff, and outreach to families; and

21 (f) Support communication-rich learning environments and
22 instruction of students in the full spectrum of communication
23 modalities by qualified professionals, including American sign
24 language, auditory oral education, total communication, and signed
25 exact English.

26 (4) The panel shall jointly select and consult with two educational
27 service districts as the demonstration sites, one of which shall be in
28 eastern Washington. Not later than December 1, 2007, the panel shall
29 brief the legislature on its work and identify any resources and policy
30 changes essential for the implementation and operation of the
31 demonstration sites.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 40.** The director of the Washington state center
33 for childhood deafness and hearing loss and the chancellor of
34 Washington State University, Vancouver shall consult with the higher
35 education coordinating board, the state board for community and
36 technical colleges, and other entities as appropriate to identify
37 program development and other needs to support the certification and

1 professional development of teachers, interpreters, auditory and speech
2 therapists, and other professionals essential to providing regionally
3 delivered communication-rich education environments to students who are
4 deaf and hearing impaired. By September 1, 2007, the director and the
5 chancellor shall report to the appropriate committees of the
6 legislature with recommendations that may include targeted enrollments
7 or funding, scholarships, or conditional loan forgiveness or repayment
8 assistance programs for high-demand skills or for meeting specific
9 geographical needs.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 41.** RCW 72.40.023 (Superintendent of the state
11 school for the deaf--Powers and duties) and 2002 c 209 s 3 are each
12 repealed.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 42.** Sections 39 and 40 of this act are
14 necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health,
15 or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public
16 institutions, and take effect May 1, 2007.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 43.** Sections 39 and 40 of this act expire
18 January 1, 2008.

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