
HOUSE BILL 2723

State of Washington 60th Legislature 2008 Regular Session

By Representatives Pettigrew, Kenney, Haigh, Lantz, Sullivan,
Darneille, Hudgins, Santos, Hasegawa, and Ormsby

Read first time 01/16/08. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to creating secondary reading intervention
2 programs; adding a new section to chapter 28A.630 RCW; and creating a
3 new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that, despite
6 improvements in student achievement as measured by the Washington
7 assessment of student learning, there remain significant numbers of
8 secondary students unable to meet state standards in reading. For the
9 class of 2008, more than nine thousand students still have not met the
10 reading standard. In the class of 2009, nearly seventeen thousand did
11 not meet the standard. Reading remains one of the most fundamental
12 academic skills for students to be successful in further schooling, in
13 the workplace, and as a citizen. But at the secondary level, English
14 teachers are more likely to be trained in such topics as literary
15 analysis, essay and term paper writing, and world literature. There is
16 a need for targeted interventions at the secondary level that provide
17 struggling students with core skills in reading comprehension.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.630
2 RCW to read as follows:

3 (1) Subject to funds appropriated for this purpose, the office of
4 the superintendent of public instruction shall allocate funds for
5 schools meeting the criteria of subsection (2) of this section to
6 implement secondary reading intervention programs as described under
7 subsection (3) of this section.

8 (2) Schools are eligible to receive allocations under this section
9 if more than ten students in the school scored well below standard
10 (level one) in reading on the previous administration of the tenth
11 grade Washington assessment of student learning.

12 (3) Schools receiving allocations under this section shall
13 implement secondary reading intervention programs that:

14 (a) Include staff development and training, materials and
15 curricula, and intensive assistance for students;

16 (b) Focus on providing students with core reading skills, including
17 comprehension and fluency;

18 (c) Demonstrate evidence of prior success in dramatically improving
19 the reading levels of secondary school or adult students.

20 (4) The amount of the allocations under this section shall be as
21 established in the omnibus appropriations act.

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