
SENATE BILL 5114

State of Washington

60th Legislature

2007 Regular Session

By Senators Rockefeller, Parlette, Eide, Weinstein, Fairley, Keiser, Shin, Kohl-Welles, Murray, McAuliffe, Rasmussen, Kauffman, Kilmer, Franklin and Holmquist

Read first time 01/11/2007. Referred to Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to student transportation funding; amending RCW
2 28A.160.160 and 28A.160.170; creating a new section; and providing an
3 effective date.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.160.160 and 1996 c 279 s 2 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

7 For purposes of RCW 28A.160.150 through 28A.160.190, except where
8 the context shall clearly indicate otherwise, the following definitions
9 apply:

10 (1) "Eligible student" means any student served by the
11 transportation program of a school district or compensated for
12 individual transportation arrangements authorized by RCW 28A.160.030
13 whose route stop is more than one (~~radius~~) mile using the shortest
14 road mile from the student's school, except that no mileage restriction
15 applies if the student to be transported:

16 (a) Is disabled under RCW 28A.155.020 and is either not ambulatory
17 or not capable of protecting his or her own welfare while traveling to
18 or from the school or agency where special education services are
19 provided(, ~~in which case no mileage distance restriction applies~~); or

1 (b) Qualifies for an exemption due to hazardous walking conditions.

2 (2) "Superintendent" means the superintendent of public
3 instruction.

4 (3) "To and from school" means the transportation of students for
5 the following purposes:

6 (a) Transportation to and from route stops and schools;

7 (b) Transportation to and from schools pursuant to an interdistrict
8 agreement pursuant to RCW 28A.335.160;

9 (c) Transportation of students between schools and learning centers
10 for instruction specifically required by statute; (~~and~~)

11 (d) Transportation of students for instructional activities
12 necessary to basic education or federal requirements related to special
13 education or no child left behind, or for homeless children; and

14 (e) Transportation of students with disabilities to and from
15 schools and agencies for special education services.

16 Extended day transportation shall not be considered part of
17 transportation of students "to and from school" for the purposes of
18 chapter 61, Laws of 1983 1st ex. sess.

19 (4) "Transportation services" for students living within one radius
20 mile from school means school transportation services including the use
21 of buses, funding of crossing guards, and matching funds for local and
22 state transportation projects intended to mitigate hazardous walking
23 conditions. Priority for transportation services shall be given to
24 students in grades kindergarten through five.

25 (5) As used in this section, "hazardous walking conditions" means
26 those instances of the existence of dangerous walkways documented by
27 the board of directors of a school district that meet criteria
28 specified in rules adopted by the superintendent of public instruction.

29 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.160.170 and 1990 c 33 s 143 are each amended to
30 read as follows:

31 Each district shall submit to the superintendent of public
32 instruction during October of each year a report containing the
33 following:

34 (1)(a) The number of eligible students transported to and from
35 school as provided for in RCW 28A.160.150 for the current school year
36 and the number of miles estimated to be driven for pupil transportation
37 services, along with a map describing student route stop locations and

1 school locations, and (b) the number of miles driven for pupil
2 transportation services as authorized in RCW 28A.160.150 the previous
3 school year; and

4 (2) Other operational data and descriptions as required by the
5 superintendent to determine allocation requirements for each district.
6 The superintendent shall require that districts separate the costs of
7 operating the program for the transportation of eligible students to
8 and from school as defined by RCW 28A.160.160(3) from non-to-and-from-
9 school pupil transportation costs in the annual financial statement.

10 Each district shall submit the information required in this section
11 on a timely basis as a condition of the continuing receipt of school
12 transportation moneys.

13 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. (1) The office of the superintendent of
14 public instruction shall develop two options for a student
15 transportation funding methodology that, as a first priority, reflects
16 actual costs and builds incentives for the efficient use of resources.
17 As a secondary priority, the office of the superintendent of public
18 instruction shall, to the extent possible, develop a formula that
19 provides school districts with predictable levels of funding.

20 (2) By December 1, 2007, the office of the superintendent of public
21 instruction shall report to the education and fiscal committees of the
22 legislature with recommendations and any accompanying legislation to
23 implement the funding methodology in subsection (1) of this section.

24 NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. Sections 1 and 2 of this act take effect
25 September 1, 2007.

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