
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6380

State of Washington

60th Legislature

2008 Regular Session

By Senate Early Learning & K-12 Education (originally sponsored by Senators Eide, Brown, McAuliffe, Marr, Shin, Kohl-Welles, and Weinstein)

READ FIRST TIME 02/08/08.

1 AN ACT Relating to enhancing school library programs; and creating
2 new sections.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature recognizes the important
5 role that librarians and library programs play in contributing to the
6 goals of education reform that were begun in 1993. Education reform is
7 based on the premise that every Washington student be provided the
8 opportunity to access an educational program that will give him or her
9 the fundamental tools necessary to compete in whatever career path he
10 or she chooses beyond high school and be successful.

11 The legislature further recognizes that school libraries and school
12 library media programs are critical components of those educational
13 programs. Students in all schools, regardless of size, should have
14 access to these instructional resources and services in order to fully
15 benefit from their classroom instruction. While the legislature
16 created the basic education finance task force last year to develop
17 recommendations for how to fund core educational services, the
18 legislature finds that, as school districts across the state continue

1 to cut library services, there is a heightened sense of urgency for a
2 short-term bridge of funding to enable districts to maintain critical
3 instructional resources.

4 It is therefore the intent of the legislature to provide additional
5 funding in the 2008 legislative session to help school districts keep
6 their library doors open and accessible for their students while also
7 encouraging the basic education finance task force to consider the
8 crucial role of highly qualified certificated staff in its
9 deliberations over how to fund the K-12 educational system and
10 ultimately achieve the goals of education reform.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The funding provided by this section
12 shall be used to augment current funding for librarian programs
13 provided through basic education and other existing funding mechanisms.
14 In order to receive allocations under this section, school districts
15 must agree that to the maximum extent possible they will ensure that
16 library programs and services are equitably provided throughout the
17 district.

18 (2) For the 2008-09 school year, every school district shall
19 receive an allocation of twelve dollars per full-time equivalent
20 student to maintain and improve library materials, collections, and
21 services.

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