

SSB 6759 - H AMD 1479

By Representative Goodman

WITHDRAWN 03/05/2010

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The joint recommendations from the
4 department of early learning, the superintendent of public instruction,
5 and thrive by five, Washington, to the governor in December 2009, and
6 the recommendations from the quality education council to the
7 legislature in January 2010, both supported implementation of a
8 voluntary program of early learning within the overall program of basic
9 education. The legislature intends to direct further examination of
10 these recommendations and Attorney General Opinion Number 8 (2009)
11 through the convening of a working group to prepare a comprehensive
12 plan for implementation of a voluntary, universal preschool program.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) Beginning April 1, 2010, the department
14 of early learning, in collaboration with the office of the
15 superintendent of public instruction, shall convene a working group to
16 develop recommendations for implementing a voluntary, universal
17 preschool program for children ages three and four. Recognizing the
18 program of early learning established in chapter . . . , Laws of 2010
19 (Second Substitute House Bill No. 2731), the working group shall
20 prepare a proposal for implementing a voluntary universal
21 prekindergarten program accessible to all three and four year olds in
22 Washington. The working group also shall examine the opportunities and
23 barriers of establishing a program of early learning under the program
24 of basic education.

25 (2) The working group shall develop recommendations for the phased
26 implementation of a voluntary, universal prekindergarten program,
27 including recommendations relating to the following elements:

28 (a) Criteria for eligible children;

1 (b) Program standards for a developmentally appropriate curriculum
2 to include:

- 3 (i) Physical well-being, health, and motor development;
- 4 (ii) Social and emotional development;
- 5 (iii) Cognition and general knowledge; and
- 6 (iv) Language, literacy, numeracy, and communication;

7 (c) Service standards for family support and health-related
8 services to include:

- 9 (i) Working with parents to access appropriate medical, dental, and
10 other health screenings for children;
- 11 (ii) Providing opportunities for parental involvement, education,
12 and leadership development; and
- 13 (iii) Family contact designed to assist the child's family in:
 - 14 (A) Assessing family strengths and needs;
 - 15 (B) Setting family goals and reviewing progress;
 - 16 (C) Accessing community resources; and
 - 17 (D) Coordinating transitions between the program, child care, home,
18 and kindergarten;
- 19 (d) Criteria for eligible providers;
- 20 (e) Governance responsibilities for the superintendent of public
21 instruction and the department of early learning;
- 22 (f) Funding necessary for implementation, including professional
23 development, facilities, and technical assistance;
- 24 (g) An implementation timeline;
- 25 (h) The need for transportation services for the program based on
26 an analysis of the transportation services and arrangements being used
27 in early childhood education and assistance programs and the need to
28 address future transportation services;
- 29 (i) Options for developing socioeconomically diverse classrooms;
30 and
- 31 (j) One or more sliding scale fee structures for possible use in
32 the program of early learning established in chapter . . ., Laws of
33 2010 (Second Substitute House Bill No. 2731), and in the voluntary,
34 universal preschool program for which a comprehensive plan is required
35 under this section.

36 (3) While developing the plan, the working group shall review early
37 learning programs in Washington, including the early childhood

1 education and assistance program and the federal head start program, as
2 well as voluntary, universal programs in other states.

3 (4) Membership of the working group shall include:

4 (a) One or more representatives from the following: The department
5 of early learning; the office of the superintendent of public
6 instruction; the nongovernmental private-public partnership created in
7 RCW 43.215.070; and the office of the attorney general;

8 (b) Two members of the early learning advisory council established
9 in RCW 43.215.090, to be appointed by the council; and

10 (c) Additional stakeholders with expertise in early learning to be
11 appointed by the early learning advisory council.

12 (5) The working group shall consult with the achievement gap
13 oversight and accountability committee established in RCW 28A.300.136,
14 and may convene advisory subgroups on specific topics as necessary to
15 assure participation and input from a broad array of diverse
16 stakeholders.

17 (6) The working group shall submit a brief progress report by July
18 1, 2011, and final report with the comprehensive plan by October 1,
19 2011, to the legislature, the governor, the early learning advisory
20 council, and the quality education council established in RCW
21 28A.290.010.

22 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The superintendent of public instruction,
23 the director of the department of early learning, and the director of
24 the office of financial management, or their respective designees,
25 shall report to the appropriate committees of the legislature by
26 January 1, 2012, with recommendations for a budgeting and funding
27 allocation method consistent with the recommendations developed under
28 section 2 of this act.

29 **Sec. 4.** RCW 43.215.090 and 2007 c 394 s 3 are each amended to read
30 as follows:

31 (1) The early learning advisory council is established to advise
32 the department on statewide early learning (~~community needs and~~
33 ~~progress~~) issues that would build a comprehensive system of quality
34 early learning programs and services for Washington's children and
35 families by assessing needs and the availability of services, aligning

1 resources, developing plans for data collection and professional
2 development of early childhood educators, and establishing key
3 performance measures.

4 (2) The council shall work in conjunction with the department to
5 develop a statewide early learning plan that (~~crosses systems and~~
6 ~~sectors to promote~~) guides the department in promoting alignment of
7 private and public sector actions, objectives, and resources, and (~~to~~
8 ~~ensure~~) ensuring school readiness.

9 (3) The council shall include diverse, statewide representation
10 from public, nonprofit, and for-profit entities. Its membership shall
11 reflect regional, racial, and cultural diversity to adequately
12 represent the needs of all children and families in the state.

13 (4) Council members shall serve two-year terms. However, to
14 stagger the terms of the council, the initial appointments for twelve
15 of the members shall be for one year. Once the initial one-year to
16 two-year terms expire, all subsequent terms shall be for two years,
17 with the terms expiring on June 30th of the applicable year. The terms
18 shall be staggered in such a way that, where possible, the terms of
19 members representing a specific group do not expire simultaneously.

20 (5) The council shall consist of not more than (~~twenty-five~~)
21 twenty-three members, as follows:

22 (a) The governor shall appoint at least one representative from
23 each of the following: The department, the office of financial
24 management, the department of social and health services, the
25 department of health, the higher education coordinating board, and the
26 state board for community and technical colleges;

27 (b) One representative from the office of the superintendent of
28 public instruction, to be appointed by the superintendent of public
29 instruction;

30 (c) The governor shall appoint (~~at least~~) seven leaders in early
31 childhood education, with at least one representative with experience
32 or expertise in each of the areas such as the following (~~areas~~):
33 Children with disabilities, the K-12 system, family day care providers,
34 and child care centers;

35 (d) Two members of the house of representatives, one from each
36 caucus, and two members of the senate, one from each caucus, to be
37 appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives and the
38 president of the senate, respectively;

1 (e) Two parents, one of whom serves on the department's parent
2 advisory council, to be appointed by the governor;

3 (f) (~~Two~~) One representative(~~s~~) of the private-public
4 partnership created in RCW 43.215.070, to be appointed by the
5 partnership board;

6 (g) One representative designated by sovereign tribal governments;
7 and

8 (h) One representative from the Washington federation of
9 independent schools.

10 (6) The council shall be cochaired by one representative of a state
11 agency and one nongovernmental member, to be elected by the council for
12 two-year terms.

13 (7) The council shall appoint two members and stakeholders with
14 expertise in early learning to serve on the working group created in
15 section 2, chapter . . . , Laws of 2010 (section 2 of this act).

16 (8) Each member of the board shall be compensated in accordance
17 with RCW 43.03.240 and reimbursed for travel expenses incurred in
18 carrying out the duties of the board in accordance with RCW 43.03.050
19 and 43.03.060.

20 (~~(+8)~~) (9) The department shall provide staff support to the
21 council.

22 **Sec. 5.** RCW 28A.290.010 and 2009 c 548 s 114 are each amended to
23 read as follows:

24 (1) The quality education council is created to recommend and
25 inform the ongoing implementation by the legislature of an evolving
26 program of basic education and the financing necessary to support such
27 program. The council shall develop strategic recommendations on the
28 program of basic education for the common schools. The council shall
29 take into consideration the capacity report produced under RCW
30 28A.300.172 and the availability of data and progress of implementing
31 the data systems required under RCW 28A.655.210. Any recommendations
32 for modifications to the program of basic education shall be based on
33 evidence that the programs effectively support student learning. The
34 council shall update the statewide strategic recommendations every four
35 years. The recommendations of the council are intended to:

36 (a) Inform future educational policy and funding decisions of the
37 legislature and governor;

1 (b) Identify measurable goals and priorities for the educational
2 system in Washington state for a ten-year time period, including the
3 goals of basic education and ongoing strategies for coordinating
4 statewide efforts to eliminate the achievement gap and reduce student
5 dropout rates; and

6 (c) Enable the state of Washington to continue to implement an
7 evolving program of basic education.

8 (2) The council may request updates and progress reports from the
9 office of the superintendent of public instruction, the state board of
10 education, the professional educator standards board, and the
11 department of early learning on the work of the agencies as well as
12 educational working groups established by the legislature.

13 (3) The chair of the council shall be selected from the
14 councilmembers. The council shall be composed of the following
15 members:

16 (a) Four members of the house of representatives, with two members
17 representing each of the major caucuses and appointed by the speaker of
18 the house of representatives;

19 (b) Four members of the senate, with two members representing each
20 of the major caucuses and appointed by the president of the senate; and

21 (c) One representative each from the office of the governor, office
22 of the superintendent of public instruction, state board of education,
23 professional educator standards board, and department of early
24 learning.

25 (4) In the 2009 fiscal year, the council shall meet as often as
26 necessary as determined by the chair. In subsequent years, the council
27 shall meet no more than four times a year.

28 (5)(a) The council shall submit an initial report to the governor
29 and the legislature by January 1, 2010, detailing its recommendations,
30 including recommendations for resolving issues or decisions requiring
31 legislative action during the 2010 legislative session, and
32 recommendations for any funding necessary to continue development and
33 implementation of chapter 548, Laws of 2009.

34 (b) The initial report shall, at a minimum, include:

35 (i) Consideration of how to establish a statewide beginning teacher
36 mentoring and support system;

37 (ii) Recommendations for a program of early learning for at-risk
38 children;

1 (iii) A recommended schedule for the concurrent phase-in of the
2 changes to the instructional program of basic education and the
3 implementation of the funding formulas and allocations to support the
4 new instructional program of basic education as established under
5 chapter 548, Laws of 2009. The phase-in schedule shall have full
6 implementation completed by September 1, 2018; and

7 (iv) A recommended schedule for phased-in implementation of the new
8 distribution formula for allocating state funds to school districts for
9 the transportation of students to and from school, with phase-in
10 beginning no later than September 1, 2013.

11 (6) After receiving the comprehensive plan required under section
12 2, chapter . . . , Laws of 2010 (section 2 of this act), the council
13 shall develop recommendations for incorporating the plan into the
14 strategic recommendations required under subsection (1) of this section
15 and submit a report to the legislature by January 1, 2011.

16 (7) The council shall be staffed by the office of the
17 superintendent of public instruction and the office of financial
18 management. Additional staff support shall be provided by the state
19 entities with representatives on the (~~committee~~) council. Senate
20 committee services and the house of representatives office of program
21 research may provide additional staff support.

22 (~~(7)~~) (8) Legislative members of the council shall serve without
23 additional compensation but may be reimbursed for travel expenses in
24 accordance with RCW 44.04.120 while attending sessions of the council
25 or on official business authorized by the council. Nonlegislative
26 members of the council may be reimbursed for travel expenses in
27 accordance with RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060."

28 Correct the title.

EFFECT: As compared to the underlying substitute bill as passed
the Senate, the striking amendment: (1) Directs the working group to
develop a plan and report recommendations for the phase-in of a
voluntary, universal preschool program, and to examine opportunities
and barriers of including such a program in the program of basic
education; (2) adds elements to the list of recommendations to be
included in the plan, and requires the plan be developed with
recognition of the early learning program established by HB 2731; (3)

changes the date by which the report from the working group is due to October 1, 2011, with a brief update due July 1, 2011, and requires the final report be delivered also to the Legislature and the Governor; (4) replaces the requirement that the Quality Education Council (QEC) oversee and monitor the working group with a requirement that the QEC, after receiving the final report from the working group in October 2011, report to the Legislature by January 1, 2012, with recommendations for incorporating the plan into the QEC's strategic recommendations on the program of basic education for the common schools; (5) adds a section directing development of recommendations for a budgeting and funding allocation method based on enrolled eligible students consistent with the comprehensive plan prepared by the working group; (6) adds requirements that the working group consult with the Achievement Gap Oversight and Accountability Committee, and directs the group to be convened by the DEL in collaboration with the OSPI; (7) removes the emergency clause; and (8) makes a technical correction to a reference to the QEC.

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