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SENATE BILL 5722

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State of Washington

61st Legislature

2009 Regular Session

By Senators Sheldon, Honeyford, McAuliffe, Hargrove, Hobbs, Morton, Hatfield, and Brandland

Read first time 01/29/09. Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

1 AN ACT Relating to state forest land revenues for school districts;  
2 and amending RCW 28A.150.250.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.150.250 and 1990 c 33 s 107 are each amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 From those funds made available by the legislature for the current  
7 use of the common schools, the superintendent of public instruction  
8 shall distribute annually as provided in RCW 28A.510.250 to each school  
9 district of the state operating a program approved by the state board  
10 of education an amount which, when combined with an appropriate portion  
11 of such locally available revenues, other than receipts from federal  
12 forest revenues distributed to school districts pursuant to RCW  
13 28A.520.010 and 28A.520.020, as the superintendent of public  
14 instruction may deem appropriate for consideration in computing state  
15 equalization support, excluding excess property tax levies and state  
16 forest land revenues received pursuant to RCW 79.64.110, will  
17 constitute a basic education allocation in dollars for each annual  
18 average full-time equivalent student enrolled, based upon one full

1 school year of one hundred eighty days, except that for kindergartens  
2 one full school year shall be one hundred eighty half days of  
3 instruction, or the equivalent as provided in RCW 28A.150.220.

4 Basic education shall be considered to be fully funded by those  
5 amounts of dollars appropriated by the legislature pursuant to RCW  
6 28A.150.250 and 28A.150.260 to fund those program requirements  
7 identified in RCW 28A.150.220 in accordance with the formula and ratios  
8 provided in RCW 28A.150.260 and those amounts of dollars appropriated  
9 by the legislature to fund the salary requirements of RCW 28A.150.100  
10 and 28A.150.410.

11 Operation of a program approved by the state board of education,  
12 for the purposes of this section, shall include a finding that the  
13 ratio of students per classroom teacher in grades kindergarten through  
14 three is not greater than the ratio of students per classroom teacher  
15 in grades four and above for such district: PROVIDED, That for the  
16 purposes of this section, "classroom teacher" shall be defined as an  
17 instructional employee possessing at least a provisional certificate,  
18 but not necessarily employed as a certificated employee, whose primary  
19 duty is the daily educational instruction of students: PROVIDED  
20 FURTHER, That the state board of education shall adopt rules and  
21 regulations to insure compliance with the student/teacher ratio  
22 provisions of this section, and such rules and regulations shall allow  
23 for exemptions for those special programs and/or school districts which  
24 may be deemed unable to practicably meet the student/teacher ratio  
25 requirements of this section by virtue of a small number of students.

26 If a school district's basic education program fails to meet the  
27 basic education requirements enumerated in RCW 28A.150.250,  
28 28A.150.260, and 28A.150.220, the state board of education shall  
29 require the superintendent of public instruction to withhold state  
30 funds in whole or in part for the basic education allocation until  
31 program compliance is assured: PROVIDED, That the state board of  
32 education may waive this requirement in the event of substantial lack  
33 of classroom space.

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