S-1262.1 _____

SENATE BILL 5941
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State of Washington   **61st Legislature**   **2009 Regular Session**

By Senators Oemig, Kastama, Jarrett, McAuliffe, Marr, Hobbs, and Tom

Read first time 02/09/09. Referred to Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education.

1   AN ACT Relating to comprehensive education data; and adding new
2 sections to chapter 43.41 RCW.

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

4   NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 43.41 RCW
5 to read as follows:
6   (1) It is the legislature's intent to establish comprehensive
7 education data improvement systems for financial, student, and educator
8 data. The objective of the systems is to monitor student progress,
9 assure educator quality, monitor and analyze the costs of programs,
10 provide for financial integrity and accountability, and have the
11 capability to link across these various data components by student, by
12 class, by teacher, by school, by district, and statewide. Education
13 data systems must be flexible and able to adapt to evolving needs for
14 information, but there must be an objective and orderly process for
15 determining when changes are needed and how to implement them.
16   (2) It is the legislature's intent that the education data
17 improvement systems used by school districts and the state include but
18 not be limited to the following information and functionality:

1   (a) Comprehensive educator assignment information, including grade
2   level and courses taught, building or location, program, job
3   assignment, years of experience, and compensation;
4   (b) The capacity to link educator assignment information with
5   educator certification information such as certification number, type
6   of certification, route to certification, certification program, and
7   certification assessment or evaluation scores;
8   (c) Common coding of secondary courses and major areas of study at
9   the elementary level;
10   (d) Complete student information, including but not limited to
11   student characteristics, course and program enrollment, performance on
12   statewide and district summative and formative assessments to the
13   extent district assessments are used, and performance on college
14   readiness tests;
15   (e) A subset of student information elements to serve as a dropout
16   early warning system;
17   (f) The capacity to link educator information with student
18   information;
19   (g) A common, standardized structure for reporting the costs of
20   programs at the school and district level with a focus on financial
21   accountability rather than accounting for expenditure inputs;
22   (h) Separate accounting of state, federal, and local revenues and
23   costs;
24   (i) Information linking state funding formulas to school district
25   budgeting and accounting, including procedures for assuring that
26   financial data is accurate and auditable;
27   (j) The capacity to link program cost information with student
28   performance information to gauge the cost-effectiveness of programs;
29   (k) Information that is centrally accessible and updated regularly;
30   and
31   (l) A deidentified replicated copy of data that is publicly
32   accessible.
33   (3) It is the legislature's goal that all school districts use a
34   common data schema to support a statewide education data improvement
35   system under this section.
36   (4) It is the legislature's intent that the education data
37   improvement system be developed to provide the educational data center
38   with the capabilities to make the following minimum reports available:

(a) The percentage of data compliance and data integrity by district;

(b) The average basic education spending per student by district;

(c) The average special education spending per student for special education services by district;

(d) Aggregate growth on the Washington assessment of student learning as a percentage and raw scalar change by district, by school, and by teacher that can also be filtered by a student's length of full-time annual enrollment within the school district;

(e) Number of students per teacher on a per teacher basis;

(f) Number of teachers per student on a per student basis; and

(g) Percentage of a teacher per student on a per student basis.

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 43.41 RCW to read as follows:

(1) A data governance group shall be established within the educational data center to assist in the design and implementation of an education data improvement system for financial, student, and educator data.

(2) The data governance group shall include representatives of the office of financial management, the state auditor's office, the legislative evaluation and accountability program committee, the joint legislative audit and review committee, the professional educator standards board, the state board of education, the Washington state information processing cooperative, educational service districts, the Washington association of school business officers, the Washington education association, the Washington association of school administrators, the Washington state school directors' association, school district information technology staff, and other interested stakeholders with expertise in education data.

(3) The data governance group shall:

(a) Create a comprehensive needs requirement document detailing the specific information and technical capacity needed by school districts and the state to meet the legislature's expectations for comprehensive education data improvement systems as described under section 1 of this act;

(b) Conduct a gap analysis of current and planned information compared to the needs requirement document, including an analysis of

the strengths and limitations of education data systems and programs
currently used by school districts and the state, and specifically
looking at the extent to which the existing data can be transformed
into canonical form and where existing software can be used to meet the
needs requirement document;

(c) Focus on financial and cost data necessary to support the new
financial models and funding formulas, including any necessary changes
to school district budgeting and accounting, and on assuring the
capacity to link data across financial, student, and educator systems;
and

(d) Develop a proposal for a data governance structure that is
submitted to the educational data center for implementation. The
educational data center is responsible for defining and updating a
standard data schema, ensuring data compliance with the schema,
ensuring data integrity, setting data collection priorities,
establishing minimum mandatory standards for school data systems, and
overseeing implementation of the comprehensive education data
improvement systems.

(4) The work of the data governance group shall be overseen by the
educational data center and monitored by the legislative evaluation and
accountability program. The governance group shall provide updates on
its work as requested by the legislative evaluation and accountability
program.

(5) To the extent data is available, the educational data center
shall make the following minimum reports available on the internet.
The reports must either be run on demand against current data, or, if
a static report, must have been run against data no older than three
months old:

(a) The percentage of data compliance and data integrity by
district;

(b) The average basic education spending per student by district;

(c) The average special education spending per student for special
education services by district;

(d) Aggregate growth on the Washington assessment of student
learning as a percentage and raw scalar change by district, by school,
and by teacher that can also be filtered by a student's length of full-
time annual enrollment within the school district;

(e) Number of students per teacher on a per teacher basis;

1   (f) Number of teachers per student on a per student basis; and

2   (g) Percentage of a teacher per student on a per student basis.

3   (6) The educational data center shall submit a preliminary report

4   to the legislature by November 15, 2009, including the analyses by the

5   data governance group under subsection (3) of this section and

6   preliminary options for addressing identified gaps. A final report,

7   including a proposed phase-in plan and preliminary cost estimates for

8   implementation of comprehensive data accountability systems for

9   financial, student, and educator data shall be submitted to the

10   legislature by September 1, 2010.

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