
SENATE BILL 6226

State of Washington

61st Legislature

2010 Regular Session

By Senators Stevens and Carrell

Read first time 01/11/10. Referred to Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to truancy petition compliance; and amending RCW
2 28A.225.151.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.225.151 and 1996 c 134 s 5 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) As required under subsection (2) of this section, each school
7 shall document the actions taken under RCW 28A.225.030 and report this
8 information to the school district superintendent who shall compile the
9 data for all the schools in the district and prepare an annual school
10 district report for each school year and submit the report to the
11 superintendent of public instruction. The reports shall be made upon
12 forms furnished by the superintendent of public instruction and shall
13 be transmitted as determined by the superintendent of public
14 instruction.

15 (2) The reports under subsection (1) of this section shall include:

16 (a) The number of enrolled students and the number of unexcused
17 absences;

18 (b) Documentation of the steps taken by the school district under
19 each subsection of RCW 28A.225.020 at the request of the superintendent

1 of public instruction. Each year, by May 1st, the superintendent of
2 public instruction shall select ten school districts to submit the
3 report at the end of the following school year. The ten districts
4 shall represent different areas of the state and be of varied sizes.
5 In addition, the superintendent of public instruction shall require any
6 district that fails to keep appropriate records to submit a full report
7 to the superintendent of public instruction under this subsection. All
8 school districts shall document steps taken under RCW 28A.225.020 in
9 each student's record, and make those records available upon request
10 consistent with the laws governing student records;

11 (c) The number of enrolled students with ten or more unexcused
12 absences in a school year or five or more unexcused absences in a month
13 during a school year;

14 (d) A description of any programs or schools developed to serve
15 students who have had five or more unexcused absences in a month or ten
16 in a year including information about the number of students in the
17 program or school and the number of unexcused absences of students
18 during and after participation in the program. The school district
19 shall also describe any placements in an approved private nonsectarian
20 school or program or certified program under a court order under RCW
21 28A.225.090; and

22 (e) The number of petitions filed by a school district with the
23 juvenile court.

24 (3) A report required under this section shall not disclose the
25 name or other identification of a child or parent.

26 (4) The superintendent of public instruction shall collect these
27 reports from all school districts and prepare an annual report for each
28 school year to be submitted to the legislature no later than December
29 15th of each year.

30 (5) The school district superintendent of any school district that
31 does not file petitions, as provided in RCW 28A.225.030, on behalf of
32 at least fifty percent of eligible students in a given year, must
33 submit a full report to the superintendent of public instruction by
34 July 15th of the following year as provided under subsection (2)(b) of
35 this section.

36 (6) The school district superintendent of any school district that
37 falls in the lowest quartile of petition filing rates among all state
38 of Washington school districts for eligible students in a given year

1 must file with the superintendent of public instruction special
2 attendance reports during the following school year in forty-five
3 school-day increments. If identified for the special attendance report
4 requirement, the school district superintendent must assemble reports
5 detailing number of enrolled students for the forty-five day period,
6 number of excused absences during the period, total number of students
7 newly eligible for a petition for civil action as provided in RCW
8 28A.225.030 during the period, and number of new petitions filed within
9 the period. The special attendance report must be filed with the
10 superintendent of public instruction no later than ten calendar days
11 following the conclusion of each forty-five day reporting period and
12 made available to the legislature and governor no later than twenty
13 days after the initial filing. The first forty-five school days of the
14 school year constitute the first reporting period. A compilation of
15 the special attendance reports must be included as an appendix to the
16 annual school district report as provided in subsection (1) of this
17 section.

18 (7) The superintendent of public instruction may waive the
19 requirements of subsection (5) or (6) of this section for any school
20 district for which it is clearly demonstrated that mitigating
21 circumstances have directly contributed to lower than expected petition
22 filing rates.

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