

HB 1521 - S COMM AMD

By Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education

ADOPTED 04/04/2011

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

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that Washington
4 has a long history of providing legal, financial, and political support
5 for a wide range of innovative programs and initiatives and that these
6 can and do operate successfully in public schools through the currently
7 authorized governance structure of locally elected boards of directors
8 of school districts.

9 (2) Examples of innovation schools can be found all across the
10 state including, but not limited to:

11 (a) The Vancouver school of arts and academics that offers students
12 beginning in sixth grade the opportunity to immerse themselves in the
13 full range of the arts, including dance, music, theater, literary arts,
14 visual arts, and moving image arts, as well as all levels of core
15 academic courses;

16 (b) Thornton Creek elementary school in Seattle, an award-winning
17 parent-initiated learning option based on the expeditionary learning
18 outward bound model;

19 (c) The technology access foundation academy, a unique public-
20 private partnership with the Federal Way school district that offers a
21 rigorous and relevant curriculum through project-based learning, full
22 integration of technology, and a small learning community intended to
23 provide middle and high school students the opportunity for success in
24 school and college;

25 (d) Talbot Hill elementary school in Renton, where students
26 participate in a microcommunity program that includes selecting a
27 government, conducting business and encouraging entrepreneurialism, and
28 providing community services such as banking, newspaper, post office,
29 and courts;

1 (e) The Tacoma school of the arts, where sophomores through seniors
2 form a cohesive, full-time learning community to study the full range
3 of humanities, mathematics, science, and language as well as build a
4 broad foundation in all forms of the arts, culminating with an in-depth
5 senior arts project that showcases each student's talent and interest;

6 (f) The SPRINT program at Shaw middle school in Spokane, an
7 alternative learning community for students in seventh and eighth grade
8 proposed and created by a group of parents who wish to be very actively
9 involved in their students' education;

10 (g) Puesta del sol elementary school in Bellevue, offering a
11 diverse multicultural program and Spanish language immersion beginning
12 in kindergarten;

13 (h) The Washington national guard youth challenge program operated
14 in collaboration with the Bremerton school district that offers high-
15 risk youth a rigorous and structured residential program that builds
16 students' academic, social, and emotional skills, and physical fitness
17 while providing up to one year of high school credits toward
18 graduation;

19 (i) The Lincoln center program at Lincoln high school in Tacoma, an
20 extended day program that has virtually eliminated the academic
21 achievement gap and significantly boosted attendance and test scores
22 for racially diverse, low-income, and highly mobile students;

23 (j) Delta high school, a science, technology, engineering, and
24 math-focused school option for students in the Tri-Cities operating in
25 cooperation with three school districts, the regional skill center,
26 local colleges and universities, and the business community; and

27 (k) Aviation high school in the Highline school district, offering
28 a project-based curriculum and learning environment centered on an
29 aviation and aeronautics theme with strong business and community
30 support.

31 (3) Therefore, the legislature intends to encourage additional
32 innovation schools by disseminating information about current models
33 and recognizing the effort and commitment that goes into their creation
34 and operation.

35 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.300
36 RCW to read as follows:

1 (1) The legislature finds that innovation schools accomplish the
2 following objectives:

3 (a) Provide students and parents with a diverse array of
4 educational options;

5 (b) Promote active and meaningful parent and community involvement
6 and partnership with local schools;

7 (c) Serve as laboratories for educational experimentation and
8 innovation;

9 (d) Respond and adapt to different styles, approaches, and
10 objectives of learning;

11 (e) Hold students and educators to high expectations and standards;
12 and

13 (f) Encourage and facilitate bold, creative, and innovative
14 educational ideas.

15 (2) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall
16 develop basic criteria and a streamlined review process for identifying
17 Washington innovation schools. Any public school, including those with
18 institution of higher education partners, may be nominated by a
19 community, organization, school district, institution of higher
20 education, or through self-nomination to be designated as a Washington
21 innovation school. If the office of the superintendent of public
22 instruction finds that the school meets the criteria, the school shall
23 receive a designation as a Washington innovation school. Within
24 available funds, the office shall develop a logo, certificate, and
25 other recognition strategies to encourage and highlight the
26 accomplishments of innovation schools.

27 (3) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall:

28 (a) Create a page on the office web site to highlight examples of
29 Washington innovation schools, including those with institution of
30 higher education partners, that includes links to research literature
31 and national best practices, as well as summary information and links
32 to the web sites of Washington innovation schools. The office is
33 encouraged to offer an educational administrator intern the opportunity
34 to create the web page as a project toward completion of his or her
35 administrator certificate; and

36 (b) Publicize the Washington innovation school designation and
37 encourage schools, communities, institutions of higher education, and

1 school districts to access the web site and create additional models of
2 innovation."

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3 On page 1, line 1 of the title, after "schools;" strike the
4 remainder of the title and insert "adding a new section to chapter
5 28A.300 RCW; and creating a new section."

EFFECT: Specifies that innovation schools and programs may have higher education partners.

Higher education institutions (in addition to a community, organization, school district, or school) may nominate schools and programs to be designated as a Washington Innovation School or Program.

When OSPI publicizes the Washington Innovation School designation and web site it should also publicize to institutions of higher education.

Technical drafting changes made.

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