
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1510

State of Washington

62nd Legislature

2011 Regular Session

By House Education (originally sponsored by Representatives Kagi, Maxwell, and Kelley; by request of Superintendent of Public Instruction)

READ FIRST TIME 02/17/11.

1 AN ACT Relating to the assessment of students in state-funded full-
2 day kindergarten classrooms; amending RCW 28A.150.315; adding a new
3 section to chapter 28A.655 RCW; and providing an effective date.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.150.315 and 2010 c 236 s 4 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (1) Beginning with the 2007-08 school year, funding for voluntary
8 all-day kindergarten programs shall be phased-in beginning with schools
9 with the highest poverty levels, defined as those schools with the
10 highest percentages of students qualifying for free and reduced-price
11 lunch support in the prior school year. During the 2011-2013 biennium,
12 funding shall continue to be phased-in each year until full statewide
13 implementation of all-day kindergarten is achieved in the 2017-18
14 school year. Once a school receives funding for the all-day
15 kindergarten program, that school shall remain eligible for funding in
16 subsequent school years regardless of changes in the school's
17 percentage of students eligible for free and reduced-price lunches as
18 long as other program requirements are fulfilled. Additionally,

1 schools receiving all-day kindergarten program support shall agree to
2 the following conditions:

3 (a) Provide at least a one thousand-hour instructional program;

4 (b) Provide a curriculum that offers a rich, varied set of
5 experiences that assist students in:

6 (i) Developing initial skills in the academic areas of reading,
7 mathematics, and writing;

8 (ii) Developing a variety of communication skills;

9 (iii) Providing experiences in science, social studies, arts,
10 health and physical education, and a world language other than English;

11 (iv) Acquiring large and small motor skills;

12 (v) Acquiring social and emotional skills including successful
13 participation in learning activities as an individual and as part of a
14 group; and

15 (vi) Learning through hands-on experiences;

16 (c) Establish learning environments that are developmentally
17 appropriate and promote creativity;

18 (d) Demonstrate strong connections and communication with early
19 learning community providers; and

20 (e) Participate in kindergarten program readiness activities with
21 early learning providers and parents.

22 (2)(a) In addition to the requirements in subsection (1) of this
23 section, beginning with the 2011-12 school year on a voluntary basis,
24 schools must identify the skills, knowledge, and characteristics of
25 kindergarten students at the beginning of the school year in order to
26 support social-emotional, physical, and cognitive growth and
27 development of individual children; support early learning provider and
28 parent involvement; and inform instruction. Kindergarten teachers
29 shall administer the Washington kindergarten inventory of developing
30 skills, as directed by the superintendent of public instruction in
31 consultation with the department of early learning, and report the
32 results to the superintendent. The superintendent shall share the
33 results with the director of the department of early learning.

34 (b) School districts shall provide an opportunity for parents and
35 guardians to excuse their children from participation in the Washington
36 kindergarten inventory of developing skills.

37 (c) Beginning in the 2012-13 school year, the Washington
38 kindergarten inventory of developing skills shall be administered at

1 the beginning of the school year to all students enrolled in state-
2 funded full-day kindergarten programs with the exception of students
3 who have been excused from participation by their parents or guardians.

4 (3) Subject to funds appropriated for this purpose, the
5 superintendent of public instruction shall designate one or more school
6 districts to serve as resources and examples of best practices in
7 designing and operating a high-quality all-day kindergarten program.
8 Designated school districts shall serve as lighthouse programs and
9 provide technical assistance to other school districts in the initial
10 stages of implementing an all-day kindergarten program. Examples of
11 topics addressed by the technical assistance include strategic
12 planning, developing the instructional program and curriculum, working
13 with early learning providers to identify students and communicate with
14 parents, and developing kindergarten program readiness activities.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.655
16 RCW to read as follows:

17 Before implementing the Washington kindergarten inventory of
18 developing skills as provided under RCW 28A.150.315, the superintendent
19 of public instruction and the department of early learning must assure
20 that a fairness and bias review of the assessment process has been
21 conducted, including providing an opportunity for input from the
22 achievement gap oversight and accountability committee under RCW
23 28A.300.136 and from an additional diverse group of community
24 representatives, parents, and educators to be convened by the
25 superintendent and the director of the department.

26 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** Section 1 of this act takes effect September
27 1, 2011.

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