
HOUSE BILL 1684

State of Washington

62nd Legislature

2011 Regular Session

By Representatives Maxwell, Orwall, Carlyle, Lias, Kenney, Reykdal, Green, Probst, Hunt, and Kelley

Read first time 01/28/11. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to providing online financial education in public
2 schools; adding a new section to chapter 28A.300 RCW; and creating a
3 new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds no greater evidence of
6 the need for financial education than the mortgage and banking crisis
7 that has occurred in the United States in recent years. The
8 legislature further finds that it is difficult to imagine a high school
9 graduate being prepared for postsecondary education, career, and
10 citizenship without financial education. Therefore the legislature
11 intends to make available to all public high school students the
12 opportunity to learn fundamental financial skills such as managing
13 checking and savings accounts and understanding the implications and
14 basic operation of contracts, compound interest, loans, mortgages,
15 payment plans, credit cards, fair credit laws, and other credit issues.

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

18 (1)(a) The office of the superintendent of public instruction,

1 through the digital learning department, shall make available to all
2 school districts an online course in financial education with
3 sufficient content to be equivalent to one-half of one high school
4 credit.

5 (b) The office shall select the course with input from the
6 financial education public-private partnership established in RCW
7 28A.300.450 to ensure that the course meets financial education
8 learning standards endorsed by the partnership.

9 (c) The office shall seek federal and private funds to support the
10 online financial education course.

11 (2) School districts shall provide all students in grades nine
12 through twelve the opportunity to complete the online financial
13 education course under this section, whether through a regularly
14 scheduled class period; before or after school; during class period
15 breaks, lunch periods, or library and study time; at home; or other
16 opportunities. School districts shall publicize the availability and
17 importance of the online financial education course to students and
18 their families. School districts are encouraged to grant credit toward
19 high school graduation to students who successfully complete the online
20 financial education course.

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