
HOUSE BILL 2533

State of Washington

62nd Legislature

2012 Regular Session

By Representatives Dammeier, Haigh, Dahlquist, Finn, Anderson, Miloscia, Fagan, Kelley, Hargrove, Eddy, Harris, Probst, Wilcox, Haler, Parker, Alexander, Taylor, Ross, Kristiansen, DeBolt, Kretz, Shea, Short, Bailey, Zeiger, Smith, Pearson, and Hurst

Read first time 01/17/12. Referred to Committee on Education Appropriations & Oversight.

1 AN ACT Relating to prioritizing expenditures for K-12 education
2 within the state appropriations process; reenacting and amending RCW
3 28A.150.380; adding new sections to chapter 44.04 RCW; and declaring an
4 emergency.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 44.04 RCW
7 to read as follows:

8 Under Article IX, section 1 of the state Constitution, it is the
9 paramount duty of the state to make ample provision for the education
10 of all of Washington's children. According to the state supreme court,
11 this constitutional provision requires that the state must amply
12 provide for the education of all Washington children as the state's
13 first and highest priority before any other state programs or
14 operations. For these reasons, it is the intent of the legislature to
15 require that all appropriations for K-12 basic education, together with
16 appropriations for other K-12 education programs, be enacted into law
17 before the legislature takes executive action on other omnibus
18 appropriations legislation.

1 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.150.380 and 2009 c 548 s 110 and 2009 c 479 s 16
2 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

3 (1) The state legislature shall, at each regular session in an odd-
4 numbered year, appropriate for the current use of the common schools
5 such amounts as needed for state support to school districts during the
6 ensuing biennium for the program of basic education under RCW
7 28A.150.200.

8 (2) In addition to those state funds provided to school districts
9 for basic education, the legislature may appropriate funds to be
10 distributed to school districts for other factors and for other special
11 programs to enhance or enrich the program of basic education.

12 (3) The state legislature shall also, at each regular session in an
13 odd-numbered year, appropriate from the general fund and education
14 construction fund for the purposes of and in accordance with the
15 provisions of the student achievement act during the ensuing biennium.

16 (4) As of the effective date of this section, all appropriations
17 for the purposes of this section and other K-12 education purposes,
18 including any adjustments to biennial operating appropriations made in
19 a supplemental operating appropriations act, must be made in
20 legislation that is separate from the omnibus operating appropriations
21 act. Such appropriations must be enacted into law before it is in
22 order for either house of the legislature to take executive action on
23 omnibus operating appropriations legislation.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 44.04 RCW
25 to read as follows:

26 As of the effective date of this section, appropriations for the
27 purposes of RCW 28A.150.380 and other K-12 education purposes must be
28 enacted into law before it is in order for either house of the
29 legislature to take executive action on omnibus operating or
30 transportation appropriations legislation.

31 The house of representatives and senate, jointly or separately, may
32 adopt rules or resolutions to implement their respective
33 responsibilities under this section.

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act is necessary for the immediate
35 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the

1 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
2 immediately.

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