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HOUSE BILL 2410

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State of Washington

63rd Legislature

2014 Regular Session

By Representatives Riccelli, Hawkins, Stonier, Santos, Reykdal, Farrell, Bergquist, Senn, Appleton, Ormsby, Parker, Walkinshaw, Robinson, Tharinger, Ryu, Morrell, Stanford, Hunt, Gregerson, and Freeman

Read first time 01/16/14. Referred to Committee on Capital Budget.

1 AN ACT Relating to equipment assistance grants to enhance student  
2 nutrition in public schools; adding a new section to chapter 28A.235  
3 RCW; creating new sections; and making an appropriation.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** This act may be known and cited as the apple  
6 a day act of 2014.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The legislature finds healthy eating in  
8 childhood and adolescence is important for optimal growth and  
9 development. The legislature further finds that states are facing a  
10 nutrition crisis that is unprecedented. Childhood obesity and diabetes  
11 are serious public health concerns. The legislature further finds that  
12 healthy lifestyle habits, including healthy eating and physical  
13 activity, can lower the risk of becoming obese and developing diabetes  
14 and other related diseases. The legislature further finds that public  
15 schools are in a unique position to promote healthy eating, ensure  
16 appropriate food and nutrient intake among students, provide students  
17 with opportunities to consume an array of foods and beverages  
18 throughout the school day, and enable students to learn about and

1 practice healthy eating behaviors. The legislature further finds that  
2 many schools across the state lack the necessary equipment and kitchen  
3 infrastructure required to support the storage, preparation, and  
4 service of minimally processed and whole foods. Therefore, it is the  
5 intent of the legislature to establish a competitive equipment  
6 assistance grant program for public schools to improve the quality of  
7 food service meals that meet federal dietary guidelines, increase the  
8 consumption of whole foods, and support the use of modified scratch,  
9 from scratch, or other cooking methods that enhance overall student  
10 nutrition.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.235  
12 RCW to read as follows:

13 (1) A competitive equipment assistance grant program, to be known  
14 as the apple a day program, is established to enhance overall student  
15 nutrition in public schools.

16 (2) The superintendent of public instruction must establish a  
17 competitive process to prioritize applications for state assistance as  
18 follows:

19 (a) The superintendent of public instruction must conduct a  
20 statewide solicitation of project applications from public school  
21 districts for common schools and public schools participating in the  
22 national school breakfast or the national school lunch program, as  
23 determined by the superintendent of public instruction.

24 (b) The superintendent of public instruction must evaluate and rank  
25 applications in consultation with an advisory committee of at least  
26 three members of selected organizations concerned with child nutrition,  
27 including one Washington school nutrition association representative  
28 and one representative from east of the crest of the Cascade mountains,  
29 using objective criteria.

30 (c) The superintendent of public instruction must require  
31 applicants to demonstrate, at a minimum, the following:

32 (i) Use of the proposed equipment will enhance nutrition and  
33 improve student access to healthier foods. Applicants must submit  
34 current school menus and proposed menus using the requested equipment;  
35 and

36 (ii) Healthy eating and physical activity are actively promoted to  
37 students, parents, teachers, and the community.

1 (3) In evaluating and ranking applications, the superintendent of  
2 public instruction shall give funding priority to:

3 (a) Public schools in which at least fifty percent of the students  
4 are eligible for free or reduced-priced meals;

5 (b) Project applications that provide a dollar-for-dollar match  
6 from nonstate sources. Nonstate match may include cash and in-kind  
7 contributions, and may be applied to the equipment purchase, labor  
8 costs associated with equipment installation or renovation, disposal of  
9 old equipment, minor capital improvements required to accommodate the  
10 equipment, and staff training costs;

11 (c) Public schools that can demonstrate nutrition is integrated  
12 into core curriculum areas such as math, science, language arts,  
13 physical education, or other areas.

14 (4) For purposes of this section, "equipment" includes new  
15 equipment, renovation of equipment, or replacement of equipment. Minor  
16 capital improvements required to accommodate the installation of  
17 equipment may also be eligible for state assistance.

18 (5) The superintendent of public instruction must award a minimum  
19 of forty-five percent, or no more than sixty percent, of total  
20 appropriations provided for the purposes of this section to applicants  
21 located east of the crest of the Cascade mountain range. The balance  
22 of the appropriation must be awarded to applicants located west of the  
23 crest of the Cascade mountain range. This subsection is not intended  
24 to limit the ability of the superintendent of public instruction to  
25 award all of the funds in the event that there are not enough qualified  
26 applications submitted from public school districts or public schools  
27 located east or west of the crest of the Cascade mountain range.

28 (6) State appropriations provided for the purposes of this section  
29 must not be used for state or school district administrative purposes.

30 (7) In consultation with the advisory committee, the superintendent  
31 of public instruction must develop and track specific, quantifiable  
32 outcome measures of the grant program, and report the outcome measures  
33 and any preliminary results to the legislature by January 1, 2015.

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The sum of one million five hundred thousand  
35 dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for  
36 the biennium ending June 30, 2015, from the common school construction

1 account to the superintendent of public instruction for the purposes of  
2 this act.

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