
SENATE BILL 5245

State of Washington

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By Senators Litzow, Dammeier, Hobbs, Harper, Hatfield, Delvin, Tom, Hewitt, Padden, Schoesler, Smith, and Mullet

Read first time 01/24/13. Referred to Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to the collection of student suspension and
2 expulsion data; and amending RCW 28A.300.046, 28A.300.042, and
3 28A.300.507.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.300.046 and 2011 c 288 s 10 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (1)(a) The superintendent of public instruction shall adopt rules
8 establishing a standard definition of student absence from school. In
9 adopting the definition, the superintendent shall review current
10 practices in Washington school districts, definitions used in other
11 states, and any national standards or definitions used by the national
12 center for education statistics or other national groups. The
13 superintendent shall also consult with the building bridges work group
14 established under RCW 28A.175.075.

15 (b) Using the definition of student absence adopted under this
16 section, the superintendent shall establish an indicator for measuring
17 student attendance in high schools for purposes of the PASS program
18 under RCW 28A.175.130.

1 (2)(a) The K-12 data governance group under RCW 28A.300.507 shall
2 establish the parameters and an implementation schedule for statewide
3 collection through the comprehensive education and data research system
4 of: (i) Student attendance data using the definitions of student
5 absence adopted under this section; and (ii) student discipline data
6 with a focus on suspensions and expulsions from school.

7 (b) ~~((At a minimum,))~~ Student suspension and expulsion data
8 collected for the purposes of this subsection (2) must be:

9 (i) Made publicly available and easily accessible on the
10 superintendent of public instruction's web site;

11 (ii) Disaggregated and crosstabulated as established under RCW
12 28A.300.042; and

13 (iii) If reported by schools, reviewed for accuracy by the
14 superintendent of public instruction, which shall include the
15 superintendent of public instruction reviewing twenty high schools'
16 discipline data for accuracy each year.

17 (c) School districts must collect and submit student attendance
18 data and student discipline data for high school students through the
19 comprehensive education and data research system for purposes of the
20 PASS program under RCW 28A.175.130 beginning in the 2012-13 school
21 year.

22 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.300.042 and 2009 c 468 s 4 are each amended to
23 read as follows:

24 (1) All student data-related reports required of the superintendent
25 of public instruction in this title must be disaggregated by at least
26 the following subgroups of students: White, Black, Hispanic, American
27 Indian/Alaskan Native, Asian, Pacific Islander/Hawaiian Native, low
28 income, transitional bilingual, migrant, special education, and
29 students covered by section 504 of the federal rehabilitation act of
30 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. Sec. 794).

31 (2) All student data-related reports required of the superintendent
32 of public instruction regarding student suspensions and expulsions as
33 required in RCW 28A.300.046 are subject to disaggregation by subgroups
34 including:

35 (a) Gender;

36 (b) Foster care;

37 (c) Homeless;

1 (d) School district;
2 (e) School;
3 (f) Grade level;
4 (g) Behavior infraction code, including:
5 (i) Bullying;
6 (ii) Tobacco;
7 (iii) Alcohol;
8 (iv) Illicit drug;
9 (v) Fighting without major injury;
10 (vi) Violence without major injury;
11 (vii) Violence with major injury;
12 (viii) Possession of a weapon; and
13 (ix) Other behavior resulting from a short-term or long-term
14 suspension, expulsion, or interim alternative education setting
15 intervention;
16 (h) Intervention applied, including:
17 (i) Short-term suspension;
18 (ii) Long-term suspension;
19 (iii) Emergency expulsion;
20 (iv) Expulsion;
21 (v) Interim alternative education settings;
22 (vi) No intervention applied; and
23 (vii) Other intervention applied that is not described in this
24 subsection (2)(h);
25 (i) Number of days a student is suspended or expelled, to be
26 counted in half or full days; and
27 (j) Any other categories added at a future date by the data
28 governance group.
29 (3) All student data-related reports required of the superintendent
30 of public instruction regarding student suspensions and expulsions as
31 required in RCW 28A.300.046 are subject to cross-tabulation at a
32 minimum by the following:
33 (a) School and district;
34 (b) Race, low income, special education, transitional bilingual,
35 migrant, foster care, homeless, students covered by section 504 of the
36 federal rehabilitation act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. Sec. 794),
37 and categories to be added in the future;
38 (c) Behavior infraction code; and

1 (d) Intervention applied.

2 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28A.300.507 and 2009 c 548 s 203 are each amended to
3 read as follows:

4 (1) A K-12 data governance group shall be established within the
5 office of the superintendent of public instruction to assist in the
6 design and implementation of a K-12 education data improvement system
7 for financial, student, and educator data. It is the intent that the
8 data system reporting specifically serve requirements for teachers,
9 parents, superintendents, school boards, the office of the
10 superintendent of public instruction, the legislature, and the public.

11 (2) The K-12 data governance group shall include representatives of
12 the education data center, the office of the superintendent of public
13 instruction, the legislative evaluation and accountability program
14 committee, the professional educator standards board, the state board
15 of education, and school district staff, including information
16 technology staff. Additional entities with expertise in education data
17 may be included in the K-12 data governance group.

18 (3) The K-12 data governance group shall:

19 (a) Identify the critical research and policy questions that need
20 to be addressed by the K-12 education data improvement system;

21 (b) Identify reports and other information that should be made
22 available on the internet in addition to the reports identified in
23 subsection (5) of this section;

24 (c) Create a comprehensive needs requirement document detailing the
25 specific information and technical capacity needed by school districts
26 and the state to meet the legislature's expectations for a
27 comprehensive K-12 education data improvement system as described under
28 RCW 28A.655.210;

29 (d) Conduct a gap analysis of current and planned information
30 compared to the needs requirement document, including an analysis of
31 the strengths and limitations of an education data system and programs
32 currently used by school districts and the state, and specifically the
33 gap analysis must look at the extent to which the existing data can be
34 transformed into canonical form and where existing software can be used
35 to meet the needs requirement document;

36 (e) Focus on financial and cost data necessary to support the new
37 K-12 financial models and funding formulas, including any necessary

1 changes to school district budgeting and accounting, and on assuring
2 the capacity to link data across financial, student, and educator
3 systems; and

4 (f) Define the operating rules and governance structure for K-12
5 data collections, ensuring that data systems are flexible and able to
6 adapt to evolving needs for information, within an objective and
7 orderly data governance process for determining when changes are needed
8 and how to implement them. Strong consideration must be made to the
9 current practice and cost of migration to new requirements. The
10 operating rules should delineate the coordination, delegation, and
11 escalation authority for data collection issues, business rules, and
12 performance goals for each K-12 data collection system, including:

13 (i) Defining and maintaining standards for privacy and
14 confidentiality;

15 (ii) Setting data collection priorities;

16 (iii) Defining and updating a standard data dictionary;

17 (iv) Ensuring data compliance with the data dictionary;

18 (v) Ensuring data accuracy; and

19 (vi) Establishing minimum standards for school, student, financial,
20 and teacher data systems. Data elements may be specified "to the
21 extent feasible" or "to the extent available" to collect more and
22 better data sets from districts with more flexible software. Nothing
23 in RCW 43.41.400, this section, or RCW 28A.655.210 should be construed
24 to require that a data dictionary or reporting should be hobbled to the
25 lowest common set. The work of the K-12 data governance group must
26 specify which data are desirable. Districts that can meet these
27 requirements shall report the desirable data. Funding from the
28 legislature must establish which subset data are absolutely required.

29 (4)(a) The K-12 data governance group shall provide updates on its
30 work as requested by the education data center and the legislative
31 evaluation and accountability program committee.

32 (b) The work of the K-12 data governance group shall be
33 periodically reviewed and monitored by the educational data center and
34 the legislative evaluation and accountability program committee.

35 (5) To the extent data is available, the office of the
36 superintendent of public instruction shall make the following minimum
37 reports available on the internet. The reports must either be run on

1 demand against current data, or, if a static report, must have been run
2 against the most recent data:

3 (a) The percentage of data compliance and data accuracy by school
4 district;

5 (b) The magnitude of spending per student, by student estimated by
6 the following algorithm and reported as the detailed summation of the
7 following components:

8 (i) An approximate, prorated fraction of each teacher or human
9 resource element that directly serves the student. Each human resource
10 element must be listed or accessible through online tunneling in the
11 report;

12 (ii) An approximate, prorated fraction of classroom or building
13 costs used by the student;

14 (iii) An approximate, prorated fraction of transportation costs
15 used by the student; and

16 (iv) An approximate, prorated fraction of all other resources
17 within the district. District-wide components should be disaggregated
18 to the extent that it is sensible and economical;

19 (c) The cost of K-12 basic education, per student, by student, by
20 school district, estimated by the algorithm in (b) of this subsection,
21 and reported in the same manner as required in (b) of this subsection;

22 (d) The cost of K-12 special education services per student, by
23 student receiving those services, by school district, estimated by the
24 algorithm in (b) of this subsection, and reported in the same manner as
25 required in (b) of this subsection;

26 (e) Improvement on the statewide assessments computed as both a
27 percentage change and absolute change on a scale score metric by
28 district, by school, and by teacher that can also be filtered by a
29 student's length of full-time enrollment within the school district;

30 (f) Number of K-12 students per classroom teacher on a per teacher
31 basis;

32 (g) Number of K-12 classroom teachers per student on a per student
33 basis;

34 (h) Percentage of a classroom teacher per student on a per student
35 basis; and

36 (i) The cost of K-12 education per student by school district
37 sorted by federal, state, and local dollars.

1 ~~(6) ((The superintendent of public instruction shall submit a~~
2 ~~preliminary report to the legislature by November 15, 2009, including~~
3 ~~the analyses by the K-12 data governance group under subsection (3) of~~
4 ~~this section and preliminary options for addressing identified gaps.~~
5 ~~A final report, including a proposed phase-in plan and preliminary cost~~
6 ~~estimates for implementation of a comprehensive data improvement system~~
7 ~~for financial, student, and educator data shall be submitted to the~~
8 ~~legislature by September 1, 2010.~~

9 ~~(7))~~ All reports and data referenced in this section and RCW
10 43.41.400 and 28A.655.210 shall be made available in a manner
11 consistent with the technical requirements of the legislative
12 evaluation and accountability program committee and the education data
13 center so that selected data can be provided to the legislature,
14 governor, school districts, and the public.

15 ~~((8))~~ (7) Reports shall contain data to the extent it is
16 available. All reports must include documentation of which data are
17 not available or are estimated. Reports must not be suppressed because
18 of poor data accuracy or completeness. Reports may be accompanied with
19 documentation to inform the reader of why some data are missing or
20 inaccurate or estimated.

21 (8) The K-12 data governance group shall examine the data collected
22 under the behavior infraction subgroup in RCW 28A.300.042(2)(g)(ix) and
23 create at least four additional behavior infraction codes including
24 defiance, disruption, cell phone violations, and gang activity, and may
25 create other categories as needed, by December 1, 2013.

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