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SENATE BILL 6320

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State of Washington

63rd Legislature

2014 Regular Session

By Senators Conway, Cleveland, McAuliffe, Chase, and Keiser; by request of Superintendent of Public Instruction

Read first time 01/21/14. Referred to Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to basic education minimum instructional hours; and  
2 amending RCW 28A.150.220.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.150.220 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 9 s 2 are each  
5 amended to read as follows:

6 (1) In order for students to have the opportunity to develop the  
7 basic education knowledge and skills under RCW 28A.150.210, school  
8 districts must provide instruction of sufficient quantity and quality  
9 and give students the opportunity to complete graduation requirements  
10 that are intended to prepare them for postsecondary education, gainful  
11 employment, and citizenship. The program established under this  
12 section shall be the minimum instructional program of basic education  
13 offered by school districts.

14 (2) Each school district shall make available to students the  
15 following minimum instructional offering each school year:

16 (a) For students enrolled in grades one through twelve, at least a  
17 district-wide annual average of one thousand hours, which shall be  
18 increased to at least one thousand eighty instructional hours for  
19 students enrolled in each of grades seven through twelve and at least

1 one thousand instructional hours for students in each of grades one  
2 through six according to an implementation schedule adopted by the  
3 legislature, but not before the ((2014-15)) 2015-16 school year; and

4 (b) For students enrolled in kindergarten, at least four hundred  
5 fifty instructional hours, which shall be increased to at least one  
6 thousand instructional hours according to the implementation schedule  
7 under RCW 28A.150.315.

8 (3) The instructional program of basic education provided by each  
9 school district shall include:

10 (a) Instruction in the essential academic learning requirements  
11 under RCW 28A.655.070;

12 (b) Instruction that provides students the opportunity to complete  
13 twenty-four credits for high school graduation, subject to a phased-in  
14 implementation of the twenty-four credits as established by the  
15 legislature. Course distribution requirements may be established by  
16 the state board of education under RCW 28A.230.090;

17 (c) If the essential academic learning requirements include a  
18 requirement of languages other than English, the requirement may be met  
19 by students receiving instruction in one or more American Indian  
20 languages;

21 (d) Supplemental instruction and services for underachieving  
22 students through the learning assistance program under RCW 28A.165.005  
23 through 28A.165.065;

24 (e) Supplemental instruction and services for eligible and enrolled  
25 students and exited students whose primary language is other than  
26 English through the transitional bilingual instruction program under  
27 RCW 28A.180.010 through 28A.180.080;

28 (f) The opportunity for an appropriate education at public expense  
29 as defined by RCW 28A.155.020 for all eligible students with  
30 disabilities as defined in RCW 28A.155.020; and

31 (g) Programs for highly capable students under RCW 28A.185.010  
32 through 28A.185.030.

33 (4) Nothing contained in this section shall be construed to require  
34 individual students to attend school for any particular number of hours  
35 per day or to take any particular courses.

36 (5)(a) Each school district's kindergarten through twelfth grade  
37 basic educational program shall be accessible to all students who are  
38 five years of age, as provided by RCW 28A.225.160, and less than

1 twenty-one years of age and shall consist of a minimum of one hundred  
2 eighty school days per school year in such grades as are conducted by  
3 a school district, and one hundred eighty half-days of instruction, or  
4 equivalent, in kindergarten, to be increased to a minimum of one  
5 hundred eighty school days per school year according to the  
6 implementation schedule under RCW 28A.150.315.

7 ~~((However,))~~ (b) Schools administering the Washington kindergarten  
8 inventory of developing skills may use up to three school days at the  
9 beginning of the school year to meet with parents and families as  
10 required in the parent involvement component of the inventory.

11 ~~((In addition, effective May 1, 1979))~~ (c) In the case of students  
12 who are graduating from high school, a school district may schedule the  
13 last five school days of the one hundred ~~((and))~~ eighty day school year  
14 for noninstructional purposes ~~((in the case of students who are~~  
15 ~~graduating from high school))~~, including, but not limited to, the  
16 observance of graduation and early release from school upon the request  
17 of a student ~~((and))~~. All such students may be claimed as a full-time  
18 equivalent student to the extent they could otherwise have been so  
19 claimed for the purposes of RCW 28A.150.250 and 28A.150.260. Any hours  
20 scheduled by a school district for noninstructional purposes during the  
21 last five school days for such students shall count toward the  
22 instructional hours requirement in subsection (2)(a) of this section.

23 (6) Nothing in this section precludes a school district from  
24 enriching the instructional program of basic education, such as  
25 offering additional instruction or providing additional services,  
26 programs, or activities that the school district determines to be  
27 appropriate for the education of the school district's students.

28 (7) The state board of education shall adopt rules to implement and  
29 ensure compliance with the program requirements imposed by this  
30 section, RCW 28A.150.250 and 28A.150.260, and such related supplemental  
31 program approval requirements as the state board may establish.

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