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SENATE BILL 6555

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State of Washington

63rd Legislature

2014 Regular Session

By Senators Litzow, Hill, Tom, Hobbs, Dammeier, Rivers, and Fain

Read first time 02/06/14. Referred to Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to systematic reviews of education investments; and  
2 adding new sections to chapter 28A.150 RCW.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.150  
5 RCW to read as follows:

6 (1) The legislature finds that every year the state invests  
7 billions of dollars to help students acquire the knowledge and skills  
8 that are needed, in the contemporary setting, to equip students for  
9 their role as citizens and as potential competitors in today's market,  
10 as well as in the marketplace of ideas.

11 (2) The legislature intends to strengthen the educational system  
12 and assist Washington's children through the various stages of their  
13 education by implementing best practices and evidence-based strategies  
14 to provide the opportunity for students to learn and achieve the state-  
15 established student educational outcomes.

16 (3) The legislature further intends to build a fair and effective  
17 funding system by targeting investments and resources to provide an  
18 equal educational opportunity for all students, regardless of

1 background, family income, where they live, or where they attend  
2 school; and to amply fund the schools that serve them.

3 (4) The legislature further intends to implement an unbiased and  
4 effective method of analyzing how the state investments in public  
5 education are impacting Washington's students, so that the legislature  
6 can continue to make educational changes to the evolving program of  
7 basic education in those areas where emerging research and evidence  
8 shows there are more effective and efficient strategies for helping  
9 students succeed; and so the state can meet its constitutional duty  
10 under Article IX of the state Constitution.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.150  
12 RCW to read as follows:

13 The legislature directs the Washington institute for public policy  
14 to conduct the following on-going systematic reviews and biannually  
15 report to the governor and the legislature by December 1, 2016, and by  
16 December 1st in every even-numbered year thereafter:

17 (1) A review of high quality research to identify and update  
18 inventories of evidence-based, research-based, and promising  
19 educational practices and services, in early learning, K-12, and higher  
20 education that can, with a high degree of certainty, lead to better  
21 educational outcomes coupled with a more efficient use of taxpayer  
22 dollars; and

23 (2) A review of the state's investments in the educational system,  
24 including early learning, K-12, and higher education, with a focus on  
25 K-12, to identify the investments that result in the most effective and  
26 evidence-based practices that reliably provide an opportunity for  
27 students to successfully meet the state-established student outcomes.  
28 The initial analyses shall focus on the nine hundred eighty-two million  
29 dollars provided in the 2013-2015 omnibus appropriations act for  
30 enhancements to the program of basic education.

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