

**3SHB 1682** - S COMM AMD

By Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education

**NOT CONSIDERED 03/03/2016**

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the  
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that schools  
4 are places of academic as well as personal enrichment and that  
5 schools provide safety, stability, support, and relationships  
6 necessary to help students succeed. These resources are vitally  
7 necessary for tens of thousands of students in Washington with no  
8 permanent home who often struggle in school because they are worried  
9 about where their families are staying night after night.

10 (2) The legislature also recognizes the population of homeless  
11 students disproportionately includes students of color.

12 (3) The intent of the legislature is to start a competitive grant  
13 system for high-need school districts and to supplement federal  
14 McKinney-Vento Act dollars to ensure homeless students continue  
15 attending the same schools, maintain housing stability, and improve  
16 academic achievement.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.300  
18 RCW to read as follows:

19 (1) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall  
20 create a competitive grant process to evaluate and award state-funded  
21 three-year grants to school districts to increase identification of  
22 homeless students and the capacity of the districts to provide  
23 support, which may include education liaisons, for homeless  
24 students. The process must complement any similar federal grant  
25 program or programs in order to minimize agency overhead and  
26 administrative costs for the superintendent of public instruction and  
27 school districts. School districts may access both federal and state  
28 funding to identify and support homeless students.

29 (2) Award criteria for the state grants must be based on the  
30 demonstrated need of the school district and may consider the number  
31 or overall percentage, or both, of homeless children and youths

1 enrolled in preschool, elementary, and secondary schools in the  
2 school district, and the ability of the local school district to meet  
3 these needs. Award criteria for these must also be based on the  
4 quality of the applications submitted. Preference must be given to  
5 districts that demonstrate a commitment to serving the needs of  
6 unaccompanied youth.

7 (3) Districts receiving grants must measure during the academic  
8 year how often each student physically moves, what services families  
9 or unaccompanied youth could access, and whether or not a family or  
10 unaccompanied youth received stable housing by the end of the school  
11 year.

12 (4) Homeless students are defined as students without a fixed,  
13 regular, and adequate nighttime residence as set forth in the federal  
14 McKinney-Vento homeless education assistance act (P.L. 100-77; 101  
15 Stat. 482).

16 (5) School districts may not use funds allocated under this  
17 section to supplant existing federal, state, or local resources for  
18 homeless student supports, which may include education liaisons.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 43.185C  
20 RCW to read as follows:

21 (1) Subject to funds appropriated for this specific purpose, the  
22 department, in consultation with the office of the superintendent of  
23 public instruction, shall administer a grant program that links  
24 homeless students and their families with stable housing located in  
25 the homeless student's school district. The goal of the program is to  
26 provide educational stability for homeless students by promoting  
27 housing stability.

28 (2) The department, working with the office of the superintendent  
29 of public instruction, shall develop a competitive grant process to  
30 make grant awards to school districts partnered with eligible  
31 organizations on implementation of the proposal. For the purposes of  
32 this subsection, "eligible organization" means any local government,  
33 local housing authority, regional support network established under  
34 chapter 71.24 RCW, nonprofit community or neighborhood-based  
35 organization, federally recognized Indian tribe in the state of  
36 Washington, or regional or statewide nonprofit housing assistance  
37 organization. Applications for the grant program must include  
38 contractual agreements between the housing providers and school

1 districts defining the responsibilities and commitments of each party  
2 to identify, house, and support homeless students.

3 (3) In determining which partnerships will receive grants,  
4 preference must be given to districts with a demonstrated commitment  
5 of partnership and history with eligible organizations.

6 (4) Activities eligible for assistance under this grant program  
7 include but are not limited to:

8 (a) Rental assistance, which includes utilities, security and  
9 utility deposits, first and last month's rent, rental application  
10 fees, moving expenses, and other eligible expenses to be determined  
11 by the department;

12 (b) Transportation assistance, including gasoline assistance for  
13 families with vehicles and bus passes;

14 (c) Emergency shelter; and

15 (d) Housing stability case management.

16 (5) All beneficiaries of funds from the grant program must be  
17 unaccompanied youth or from very low-income households. For the  
18 purposes of this subsection, "very low-income household" means an  
19 unaccompanied youth or family or unrelated persons living together  
20 whose adjusted income is less than fifty percent of the median family  
21 income, adjusted for household size, for the county where the grant  
22 recipient is located.

23 (6)(a) Grantee school districts must compile information and  
24 report to the legislature the findings of the grantee, the housing  
25 stability of the homeless families, the academic performance of the  
26 grantee population, and any related policy recommendations.

27 (b) Data on all program participants must be entered into and  
28 tracked through the Washington homeless client management information  
29 system as described in RCW 43.185C.180.

30 (7) In order to ensure that school districts are meeting the  
31 requirements of an approved program for homeless students, the office  
32 of the superintendent of public instruction shall monitor the  
33 programs at least once every two years. Monitoring shall begin during  
34 the 2016-17 school year.

35 (8) Any program review and monitoring under this section may be  
36 conducted concurrently with other program reviews and monitoring  
37 conducted by the department. In its review, the office of the  
38 superintendent of public instruction shall monitor program components  
39 that include but need not be limited to the process used by the  
40 district to identify and reach out to homeless students, assessment

1 data and other indicators to determine how well the district is  
2 meeting the academic needs of homeless students, district  
3 expenditures used to expand opportunities for these students, and the  
4 academic progress of students under the program.

5 **Sec. 4.** RCW 28A.300.540 and 2015 c 69 s 28 are each amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 (1) For the purposes of this section, "unaccompanied homeless  
8 student" means a student who is not in the physical custody of a  
9 parent or guardian and is homeless as defined in RCW 43.330.702(2).

10 (2) By December 31, 2010, the office of the superintendent of  
11 public instruction shall establish a uniform process designed to  
12 track the additional expenditures for transporting homeless students,  
13 including expenditures required under the McKinney Vento act,  
14 reauthorized as Title X, Part C, of the no child left behind act,  
15 P.L. 107-110, in January 2002. Once established, the superintendent  
16 shall adopt the necessary administrative rules to direct each school  
17 district to adopt and use the uniform process and track these  
18 expenditures. The superintendent shall post on the superintendent's  
19 web site total expenditures related to the transportation of homeless  
20 students.

21 (3)(a) By January 10, 2015, and every odd-numbered year  
22 thereafter, the office of the superintendent of public instruction  
23 shall report to the governor and the legislature the following data  
24 for homeless students:

25 (i) The number of identified homeless students enrolled in public  
26 schools;

27 (ii) The number of identified unaccompanied homeless students  
28 enrolled in public schools, which number shall be included for each  
29 district and the state under "student demographics" on the Washington  
30 state report card web site;

31 (iii) The number of identified homeless students of color;

32 (iv) The number of students participating in the learning  
33 assistance program under chapter 28A.165 RCW, the highly capable  
34 program under chapter 28A.185 RCW, and the running start program  
35 under chapter 28A.600 RCW; and

36 ~~((iv))~~ (v) The academic performance and educational outcomes of  
37 homeless students and unaccompanied homeless students, including but  
38 not limited to the following performance and educational outcomes:

1 (A) Student scores on the statewide administered academic  
2 assessments;

3 (B) English language proficiency;

4 (C) Dropout rates;

5 (D) Four-year adjusted cohort graduation rate;

6 (E) Five-year adjusted cohort graduation rate;

7 (F) Absenteeism rates;

8 (G) Truancy rates, if available; and

9 (H) Suspension and expulsion data.

10 (b) The data reported under this subsection (3) must include  
11 state and district-level information and must be disaggregated by at  
12 least the following subgroups of students: White, Black, Hispanic,  
13 American Indian/Alaskan Native, Asian, Pacific Islander/Hawaiian  
14 Native, low income, transitional bilingual, migrant, special  
15 education, and gender.

16 (4) By July 1, 2014, the office of the superintendent of public  
17 instruction in collaboration with experts from community  
18 organizations on homelessness and homeless education policy, shall  
19 develop or acquire a short video that provides information on how to  
20 identify signs that indicate a student may be homeless, how to  
21 provide services and support to homeless students, and why this  
22 identification and support is critical to student success. The video  
23 must be posted on the superintendent of public instruction's web  
24 site.

25 (5) By July 1, 2014, the office of the superintendent of public  
26 instruction shall adopt and distribute to each school district, best  
27 practices for choosing and training school district-designated  
28 homeless student liaisons.

29 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.320  
30 RCW to read as follows:

31 Each school district that has identified more than ten  
32 unaccompanied youth must establish a building point of contact in  
33 each middle school and high school. These points of contact must be  
34 appointed by the principal of the designated school and are  
35 responsible for identifying homeless and unaccompanied youth and  
36 connecting them with the school district's homeless student liaison.  
37 The school district homeless student liaison is responsible for  
38 training building points of contact.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 6.**    This act may be known and cited as the  
2 homeless student stability and opportunity gap act.

3        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 7.**    (1) The sum of one million dollars, or as  
4 much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the fiscal year  
5 ending June 30, 2017, from the general fund to the office of the  
6 superintendent of public instruction for the purposes of section 2 of  
7 this act.

8        (2) The sum of one million dollars, or as much thereof as may be  
9 necessary, is appropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018,  
10 from the general fund to the office of the superintendent of public  
11 instruction for the purposes of section 2 of this act."

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12        On page 1, line 3 of the title, after "services;" strike the  
13 remainder of the title and insert "amending RCW 28A.300.540; adding a  
14 new section to chapter 28A.300 RCW; adding a new section to chapter  
15 43.185C RCW; adding a new section to chapter 28A.320 RCW; creating  
16 new sections; and making appropriations."

EFFECT: Removes the reference to the amount of grant awards related to housing.

Removes the reference to the number of schools that could receive grant awards related to housing.

Changes "school districts" to "partnerships" for the provision describing the preference that should be given for the grant awards related to housing.

Removes the null and void clause for the grant awards related to housing and inserts an appropriations clause for the grant awards related to identification and support of homeless students.

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