
HOUSE BILL 2381

State of Washington

64th Legislature

2016 Regular Session

By Representatives Ortiz-Self, Kilduff, Walsh, Peterson, Gregerson, Cody, Caldier, Jinkins, Reykdal, Frame, Stanford, Sells, McBride, Bergquist, and Pollet

Read first time 01/12/16. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to creating a task force on school counselors,
2 psychologists, and social workers; creating a new section; and
3 providing an expiration date.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1)(a) A legislative task force on school
6 counselors, psychologists, and social workers is established, with
7 members as provided in this subsection.

8 (i) The president of the senate shall appoint one member from the
9 early learning and K-12 education committee.

10 (ii) The speaker of the house of representatives shall appoint
11 one member from the education committee.

12 (iii) The governor shall appoint one member representing the
13 professional educator standards board.

14 (iv) The governor shall appoint one member representing
15 counselor, social worker, and psychologist preparation programs.

16 (v) The superintendent of public instruction shall appoint one
17 member representing the office of the superintendent of public
18 instruction.

19 (vi) The superintendent of public instruction shall, after
20 consultation with associations representing counselors, social

1 workers, psychologists, educators, and principals, appoint one member
2 representing each association.

3 (b) The professional educator standards board must be the
4 facilitator for the task force.

5 (2) The task force shall review the following issues:

6 (a) The projected need of school districts for each category of
7 educational staff associate;

8 (b) The current capacity of the state for meeting this need;

9 (c) Alternative routes for educational staff associate
10 certification; and

11 (d) Social work, psychologist, and counselor preparation programs
12 to determine whether the professionals completing these programs have
13 the proper preparation to handle the mental health and safety needs
14 of students and to provide students with social and emotional
15 supports.

16 (3) Staff support for the task force must be provided by the
17 professional educator standards board.

18 (4) Legislative members of the task force are reimbursed for
19 travel expenses in accordance with RCW 44.04.120. Nonlegislative
20 members are not entitled to be reimbursed for travel expenses if they
21 are elected officials or are participating on behalf of an employer,
22 governmental entity, or other organization. Any reimbursement for
23 other nonlegislative members is subject to chapter 43.03 RCW.

24 (5) Task force expenditures are subject to approval by the senate
25 facilities and operations committee and the house of representatives
26 executive rules committee, or their successor committees.

27 (6) The task force must report its findings and recommendations
28 to the appropriate committees of the legislature, the superintendent
29 of public instruction, and the governor by December 1, 2016, in
30 accordance with RCW 43.01.036.

31 (7) This section expires July 1, 2017.

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