
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5163

State of Washington

64th Legislature

2015 Regular Session

By Senate Early Learning & K-12 Education (originally sponsored by Senators Hobbs, Roach, Rolfes, O'Ban, Hatfield, Litzow, McCoy, Mullet, Conway, Fain, Chase, and Darneille)

READ FIRST TIME 01/30/15.

1 AN ACT Relating to providing for educational data on students
2 from military families; amending RCW 28A.300.505; and creating new
3 sections.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that,
6 nationally, nearly two million students are from military families,
7 where one or more parent or guardian serves in the United States
8 armed forces, reserves, or national guard. There are approximately
9 one hundred thirty-six thousand military families in Washington
10 state.

11 (2) The legislature further finds that a United States government
12 accountability office study in 2011 identified that it is not
13 possible to monitor educational outcomes for students from military
14 families due to the lack of a student identifier in state educational
15 data systems. Such an identifier is needed to allow educators and
16 policymakers to monitor critical elements of education success,
17 including academic progress and proficiency, special and advanced
18 program participation, mobility and dropout rates, and patterns over
19 time across states and school districts. Reliable information about
20 student performance will assist educators in more effectively

1 transitioning students to a new school and enable school districts to
2 discover and implement best practices.

3 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.300.505 and 2007 c 401 s 5 are each amended to
4 read as follows:

5 (1) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall
6 develop standards for school data systems that focus on validation
7 and verification of data entered into the systems to ensure accuracy
8 and compatibility of data. The standards shall address but are not
9 limited to the following topics:

- 10 (a) Date validation;
- 11 (b) Code validation, which includes gender, race or ethnicity,
12 and other code elements;
- 13 (c) Decimal and integer validation; and
- 14 (d) Required field validation as defined by state and federal
15 requirements.

16 (2) The superintendent of public instruction shall develop a
17 reporting format and instructions for school districts to collect and
18 submit data that must include:

19 (a) Data on student demographics that is disaggregated by
20 distinct ethnic categories within racial subgroups so that analyses
21 may be conducted on student achievement using the disaggregated data;
22 and

23 (b) Starting no later than the 2016-17 school year, for all newly
24 enrolled students, including transfer students, data on students from
25 military families. The K-12 data governance group established in RCW
26 28A.300.507 must develop best practice guidelines for the collection
27 and regular updating of this data on students from military families.

28 (3) For the purposes of this section "students from military
29 families" means the following categories of students, with data to be
30 collected and submitted separately for each category:

31 (i) Students with a parent or guardian who is a member of the
32 active duty United States armed forces; and

33 (ii) Students with a parent or guardian who is a member of the
34 reserves of the United States armed forces or a member of the
35 Washington national guard.

36 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** Using the definitions in RCW 28A.300.505,
37 the office of the superintendent of public instruction shall conduct
38 an analysis of the average number of students from military families

1 who are special education students. The data reported must include
2 state, district, and school-level information. To protect the privacy
3 of students, the data from schools and districts that have fewer than
4 ten students from military families who are special education
5 students shall not be reported. The office of the superintendent of
6 public instruction shall report its analysis to the appropriate
7 committees of the legislature by December 31, 2017.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** If specific funding for the purposes of
9 this act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not
10 provided by June 30, 2015, in the omnibus appropriations act, this
11 act is null and void.

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