
HOUSE BILL 2311

State of Washington

65th Legislature

2018 Regular Session

By Representatives Bergquist, Harris, Hudgins, Tarleton, Slatter, Haler, Reeves, Doglio, Muri, Graves, and Young

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1 AN ACT Relating to reducing barriers to student participation in
2 extracurricular activities; adding new sections to chapter 28A.600
3 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 28A.300 RCW; and creating a new
4 section.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** INTENT. (1)(a) According to the Washington
7 interscholastic activities association, interscholastic athletics and
8 activities are a vital part of enriching students' educational
9 experiences and developing students into responsible adults. The
10 legislature finds that research compiled by the association
11 demonstrates that students who participate in extracurricular
12 activities have:

13 (i) Better grades and higher standardized test scores;

14 (ii) Increased school attendance; and

15 (iii) Improved health and wellness.

16 (b) In addition, the legislature finds that this research shows
17 that participation in extracurricular activities develops lifelong
18 skills and relationship building; has long-term economic benefits;
19 increases the odds of attending and graduating from college;
20 decreases the likelihood of juvenile crimes, drug, alcohol, and

1 cigarette use, and sexual activities; and positively enhances a
2 student's educational experience.

3 (2) Thus, the legislature intends to reduce barriers to
4 participation in extracurricular activities by:

5 (a) Capping fees for low-income students who participate in these
6 activities;

7 (b) Requiring that the process for charging and collecting fees
8 be identical for all students; and

9 (c) Reducing the frequency of required physical examinations.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.600
11 RCW to read as follows:

12 FEE LIMITATIONS. (1)(a) The maximum fee charged to a public or
13 private school student eligible to participate in the federal free
14 and reduced-price meals program for an associated student body or
15 other student identification card is five dollars per school year.

16 (b) The maximum fee charged to a public or private school student
17 eligible to participate in the federal free and reduced-price meals
18 program to participate in an extracurricular activity is five dollars
19 per extracurricular activity per school year. This subsection (1)(b)
20 applies only to students who are enrolled in a school district that
21 is a member of the Washington interscholastic activities association.

22 (2) The process for charging and collecting fees from public and
23 private school students eligible to participate in the federal free
24 and reduced-price meals program, as required by subsection (1) of
25 this section, must be identical to the process for charging and
26 collecting fees from other students.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.300
28 RCW to read as follows:

29 PROMOTING LIVELY ACTIVITIES FOR YOUTH (PLAY) GRANT PROGRAM. (1)
30 The promoting lively activities for youth (PLAY) grant program is
31 created to subsidize small school districts unduly impacted by
32 section 2 of this act, which limits the extracurricular activities
33 fee charged to public school students eligible to participate in the
34 federal free and reduced-price meals program.

35 (2) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this
36 specific purpose and beginning in the 2018-19 school year, the
37 superintendent of public instruction shall allocate, on a first come

1 basis, up to fifty thousand dollars per school year for the purposes
2 of the PLAY grant program.

3 (3) To qualify for a PLAY grant, a school district must:

4 (a) Have fewer than two thousand students;

5 (b) Have fifty percent or more of their students eligible to
6 participate in the federal free and reduced-price meals program; and

7 (c) Be impacted by the maximum extracurricular activities fee
8 limitations described in section 2 of this act.

9 (4) Applications for a PLAY grant must include the number and
10 overall percentage of students eligible to participate in the federal
11 free and reduced-price meals program who participated in one or more
12 extracurricular activities in the prior school year, and an estimate
13 of the number of extracurricular activities fees subject to the
14 maximum described in section 2(2) of this act.

15 (5) The maximum grant award per school district is five thousand
16 dollars per year.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.600
18 RCW to read as follows:

19 PHYSICAL EXAMINATION FREQUENCY. Students may not be required to
20 complete a physical examination to participate in extracurricular
21 activities more often than every twenty-four months, unless
22 recommended by a medical authority licensed to perform a physical
23 examination.

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