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SECOND SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5236

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State of Washington

65th Legislature

2017 Regular Session

By Senate Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Senators Zeiger, Fain, Rolfes, Warnick, Rivers, Liias, Angel, Keiser, Kuderer, and Hunt)

READ FIRST TIME 02/24/17.

1 AN ACT Relating to the creation of a civic learning public-  
2 private partnership; adding a new chapter to Title 28A RCW; and  
3 creating a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** INTENT. Civic learning teaches students  
6 how to be active, informed, and engaged citizens. Washington has  
7 included civics education in high school graduation requirements.  
8 However, high quality civic learning is not being taught in a  
9 systematic way in grades kindergarten through twelve. Pressure to  
10 emphasize other areas of the curriculum relegates civic education to  
11 a lesser role. Teachers in elementary and secondary schools lack  
12 widespread access to professional development and open resources to  
13 support teaching high quality civic learning. Collaboration to  
14 enhance civic learning between schools and community-based programs  
15 that offer expanded learning opportunities after school and in the  
16 summer has not been widely established. Expanded learning providers  
17 also lack access to professional development in civic learning. The  
18 deficiencies are particularly acute for students in rural and lower  
19 income schools.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** PURPOSE. The purposes of this act are to:

1 (1) Create demonstration civic learning partnerships in six  
2 communities across Washington that will result in broad  
3 implementation of high quality civic learning in grades kindergarten  
4 through twelve and in expanded learning programs;

5 (2) Provide in-depth professional development in civic learning  
6 curricula that meets the six proven practices of civic learning  
7 established by the civic mission of schools;

8 (3) Establish goals and monitor benchmarks implementation of high  
9 quality civic learning for all students within the six partnerships;

10 (4) Create and make available open resource funding to promote  
11 this engagement;

12 (5) Offer regional professional development to teachers and  
13 expanded learning providers; and

14 (6) Establish collaborative models in civic learning between  
15 expanded learning opportunities and in-school programs in the  
16 demonstration partnerships and regional efforts.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** PARTNERSHIP—ESTABLISHED. (1) A civic  
18 learning public-private partnership is established, composed of the  
19 following members:

20 (a) Four members of the legislature, with one member from each  
21 major caucus of the house of representatives appointed by the speaker  
22 of the house of representatives, and one member from each major  
23 caucus of the senate appointed by the majority and minority leaders  
24 of the senate;

25 (b) The governor or the governor's designee;

26 (c) The secretary of state or the secretary's designee;

27 (d) Three teachers to be appointed by the superintendent of  
28 public instruction, with one each representing the elementary,  
29 middle, and secondary education sectors;

30 (e) One representative of a statewide organization of social  
31 studies teachers;

32 (f) Two representatives from an organization with a history of  
33 promoting civics education and public legal education;

34 (g) One member from a statewide expanded learning provider to be  
35 appointed by a statewide expanded learning provider;

36 (h) One expanded learning provider to be appointed by the  
37 statewide expanded learning provider appointed in (g) of this  
38 subsection;

1 (i) A representative from the administrative office of the courts  
2 to be appointed by the administrator for the courts;

3 (j) Two representatives from the office of the superintendent of  
4 public instruction, with one involved in curriculum development and  
5 one involved in teacher professional development, to be appointed by  
6 the superintendent of public instruction;

7 (k) A representative appointed by the state principals'  
8 association; and

9 (l) A representative appointed by the chair of the state board of  
10 education.

11 (2)(a) All members must be appointed effective August 1, 2017.

12 (b) Terms of appointment are two years, except the initial term  
13 of appointments under subsection (2)(d), (e), (f), and (g) is three  
14 years.

15 (3) The chair of the partnership must be selected by the members  
16 of the partnership from among the legislative members.

17 (4) To the extent funds are appropriated or are available, the  
18 partnership may hire a staff person who shall reside in the office of  
19 an agency or organization represented on the civic learning public-  
20 private partnership. Additional technical and logistical support may  
21 be provided by the agencies and organizations on the civic learning  
22 public-private partnership.

23 (5)(a) Legislative members of the partnership shall receive per  
24 diem and travel expenses in accordance with RCW 44.04.120.

25 (b) Travel and other expenses of members of the partnership shall  
26 be provided from funds available in the Washington civic learning  
27 public-private partnership account.

28 (c) Teachers appointed as members by the superintendent of public  
29 instruction may be paid their travel expenses in accordance with RCW  
30 43.03.050 and 43.03.060 from funds available in the Washington civic  
31 learning public-private partnership account. If the attendance of a  
32 teacher member at an official meeting of the partnership results in a  
33 need for a school district to employ a substitute, payment for the  
34 substitute may be made by the superintendent of public instruction  
35 from funds available in the Washington civic learning public-private  
36 partnership account. A school district must release a teacher member  
37 to attend an official meeting of the partnership if the partnership  
38 pays the district for a substitute or pays the travel expenses of the  
39 teacher member.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 4.**    RESPONSIBILITIES. (1) The goals of the  
2 civic learning public-private partnership are to ensure that students  
3 in K-12 schools and in expanded learning opportunities are equipped  
4 with the knowledge and skills to engage effectively in government as  
5 citizens. In carrying out this task, the civic learning public-  
6 private partnership must:

7        (a) Establish six demonstration civic learning partnerships with  
8 local communities to assess and implement in-depth civic learning in  
9 kindergarten through twelfth grade. High quality civic education  
10 programs must include on-site professional development, and open  
11 resources must be made available for small grants to teachers. High  
12 quality civic resource persons must contract to help the six  
13 demonstration civic learning partnerships to plan and implement  
14 extensive civic learning. Expanded learning opportunities after  
15 school and in the summer in local communities must be identified and  
16 added to the partnership and professional development and open  
17 resource opportunities. A core local team must monitor and report the  
18 level of penetration of civic learning within the schools and after-  
19 school programs;

20        (b) Contract or facilitate with high quality civic learning  
21 providers to offer regional and statewide civic learning professional  
22 development to K-12 teachers and providers of expanded learning  
23 opportunities;

24        (c) Ensure that underserved students are prioritized in the  
25 implementation, including rural, low-income, and immigrant and  
26 refugee students;

27        (d) Work with the office of the superintendent of public  
28 instruction to develop evaluation standards and a procedure for  
29 endorsing civic learning education curriculum that the partnership  
30 determines should be recommended for use in school districts and in  
31 expanded learning opportunities curriculum and programming;

32        (e) Work with the office of the superintendent of public  
33 instruction to integrate these efforts into their civic education  
34 initiative;

35        (f) Assist in developing academic guidelines and standards-based  
36 protocols for use by teachers and classroom volunteers who  
37 participate in delivering civic education to students in the public  
38 schools;

39        (g) Provide an annual report by December 1st each year to the  
40 governor, the superintendent of public instruction, and the

1 committees of the legislature with oversight over K-12 education and  
2 after-school programs; and

3 (h) Develop a web-based interactive tool for teaching civics,  
4 particularly state, local, and tribal government civics, in  
5 Washington state.

6 (2)(a) The civic learning public-private partnership must offer  
7 open resources in small grant amounts to teachers and providers of  
8 expanded learning opportunities to implement specific civic learning  
9 projects.

10 (b) The civic learning public-private partnership must select six  
11 school districts that are diverse geographically, size-wise, and  
12 demographically to participate as demonstration civic learning  
13 partnerships, along with expanded learning programs. These  
14 demonstration partnerships must commit to integrate six proven  
15 practices of civic learning, establish local partnerships, and  
16 monitor implementation. In exchange, the civic learning public-  
17 private partnership must provide assistance with curriculum,  
18 professional development, and monitoring in-depth implementation of  
19 high quality civic learning.

20 (3) State civic education standards: Six proven practices for  
21 effective civic learning and nationally recognized college, career,  
22 and civic life frameworks for social studies state standards must  
23 guide the choice and implementation of professional development for  
24 schools and after-school programs.

25 (4) The office of the superintendent of public instruction must  
26 make a list of approved materials available to districts and  
27 districts must provide the opportunity to access standards and must  
28 publicize the availability of these materials.

29 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** WASHINGTON CIVIC LEARNING PUBLIC-PRIVATE  
30 PARTNERSHIP ACCOUNT. The Washington civic learning public-private  
31 partnership account is created in the custody of the state treasurer.  
32 The purpose of the account is to support the Washington civic  
33 learning public-private partnership and the work of the partnership  
34 as provided in section 3 of this act. Revenues to the account may  
35 include gifts or grants from the private sector or foundations,  
36 federal funds, legislative appropriations, or funds from other  
37 sources. Only the superintendent of public instruction or the  
38 superintendent's designee may authorize expenditures from the account  
39 and only at the direction of the partnership. The account is subject

1 to allotment procedures under chapter 43.88 RCW, but an appropriation  
2 is not required for expenditures.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** Sections 1 through 5 of this act  
4 constitute a new chapter in Title 28A RCW.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** If specific funding for the purposes of  
6 this act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not  
7 provided by June 30, 2017, in the omnibus appropriations act, this  
8 act is null and void.

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