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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1715**

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**State of Washington**

**66th Legislature**

**2019 Regular Session**

**By** House Education (originally sponsored by Representatives Entenman, Boehnke, Jinkins, Ortiz-Self, Bergquist, and Pollet; by request of State Board for Community and Technical Colleges)

READ FIRST TIME 02/22/19.

1 AN ACT Relating to removing the ability of school districts to  
2 withhold grades and transcripts of pupils; and amending RCW  
3 28A.635.060 and 28A.325.050.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.635.060 and 1997 c 266 s 13 are each amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 (1) Any pupil who defaces or otherwise injures any school  
8 property, or property belonging to a school contractor, employee, or  
9 another student, is subject to suspension and punishment. If any  
10 property of the school district, a contractor of the district, an  
11 employee, or another student has been lost or willfully cut, defaced,  
12 or injured, the school district may withhold the grades, diploma, and  
13 transcripts of the pupil responsible for the damage or loss until the  
14 pupil or the pupil's parent or guardian has paid for the damages,  
15 except that the school district must release the pupil's grades and  
16 transcripts five years after the pupil exits the school district. If  
17 the student is suspended, the student may not be readmitted until the  
18 student or parents or legal guardian has made payment in full or  
19 until directed by the superintendent of schools. If the property  
20 damaged is a school bus owned and operated by or contracted to any  
21 school district, a student suspended for the damage may not be

1 permitted to enter or ride any school bus until the student or parent  
2 or legal guardian has made payment in full or until directed by the  
3 superintendent. When the pupil and parent or guardian are unable to  
4 pay for the damages, the school district shall provide a program of  
5 (~~voluntary work~~) community service opportunities for the pupil (~~in~~  
6 ~~lieu~~) instead of the payment of monetary damages. Upon completion of  
7 (~~voluntary work~~) community service the grades, diploma, and  
8 transcripts of the pupil shall be released. The parent or guardian of  
9 such pupil shall be liable for damages as otherwise provided by law.

10 (2) When informing either the pupil or the pupil's parent or  
11 guardian that the pupil's grades, diploma, or transcripts are being  
12 withheld as allowed under subsection (1) of this section, a school  
13 district must provide the following information:

14 (a) The school district may waive the payment of the monetary  
15 damage in part or in full;

16 (b) The pupil may make the payment of monetary damages;

17 (c) The pupil may participate in a program of community service  
18 opportunities for the pupil instead of the payment of monetary  
19 damages; and

20 (d) The school district must release the pupil's grades and  
21 transcripts five years after the pupil exits the school district.  
22 When the pupil has already exited the school district, the school  
23 district must inform the pupil of the date on which the school  
24 district is obligated to release the pupil's grades and transcripts.

25 (3) Before any penalties are assessed under this section, a  
26 school district board of directors shall adopt procedures which  
27 insure that pupils' rights to due process are protected.

28 (~~(3)~~) (4) If the department of social and health services or a  
29 child-placing agency licensed by the department has been granted  
30 custody of a child, that child's records, if requested by the  
31 department or agency, are not to be withheld for nonpayment of school  
32 fees or any other reason.

33 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.325.050 and 2014 c 211 s 3 are each amended to  
34 read as follows:

35 (1) Each school district that has an associated student body  
36 program fund must publish the following information about the fund on  
37 its web site:

38 (a) The fund balance at the beginning of the school year;

1 (b) Summary data about expenditures and revenues occurring over  
2 the course of the school year; and

3 (c) The fund balance at the end of the school year.

4 (2) Each school district that has an associated student body must  
5 publish the following information on its web site: How many former  
6 students who were enrolled in the school district within the previous  
7 five years are subject to the withholding of their grades, diplomas,  
8 or transcripts as permitted under RCW 28A.635.060; and how many of  
9 these former students were eligible for the federal free or reduced-  
10 price meals program in their last year of enrollment in the school  
11 district.

12 (3) The information under this section must be published for each  
13 associated student body of the district and each account within the  
14 associated student body program fund.

15 ((3)) (4) If the school district web site contains separate web  
16 sites for schools in the district, the information under this section  
17 must be published on the web site of the applicable school of the  
18 associated student body.

19 ((4)) (5) No later than August 31, 2014, school districts must  
20 publish the information under this section on their web sites for the  
21 2012-13 and 2013-14 school years. School districts must add updated  
22 annual information to their web sites by each August 31st, except  
23 that school districts are only required to maintain the information  
24 on the web site from the previous five years.

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