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SENATE BILL 6021

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

By Senator Braun

- AN ACT Relating to K-12 education funding; amending RCW 28A.320.330, 43.09.2856, and 28A.150.390; adding a new section to
- 3 chapter 28A.150 RCW; and adding a new section to chapter 28A.300 RCW.
- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.320.330 and 2018 c 266 s 302 are each amended to 6 read as follows:
- School districts shall establish the following funds in addition to those provided elsewhere by law:
- 9 (1)(a) A general fund for the school district to account for all 10 financial operations of the school district except those required to 11 be accounted for in another fund.
- 12 (b) By the 2018-19 school year, a local revenue subfund of its 13 general fund to account for the financial operations of a school district that are paid from local revenues. The local revenues that 14 15 must be deposited in the local revenue subfund are enrichment levies 16 and transportation vehicle levies collected under RCW 84.52.053, 17 local effort assistance funding received under chapter 28A.500 RCW, 18 and other school district local revenues including, but not limited 19 to, grants, donations, and state and federal payments in lieu of 20 taxes, but do not include other federal revenues, or local revenues 21 that operate as an offset to the district's basic education

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- allocation under RCW 28A.150.250. School districts must track expenditures from this subfund separately to account for the expenditure of each of these streams of revenue by source, and must provide ((any)) the supplemental expenditure schedule((s)) under (c) of this subsection, and any other supplemental expenditure schedules required by the superintendent of public instruction or state auditor, for purposes of RCW 43.09.2856.
 - (c) Beginning in the 2019-20 school year, the superintendent of public instruction must require school districts to provide a supplemental expenditure schedule by revenue source that identifies the amount expended by object for each of the following supplementary enrichment activities beyond the state funded amount:
- (i) Minimum instructional offerings under RCW 28A.150.220 or 28A.150.260 not otherwise included on other lines;
- (ii) Staffing ratios or program components under RCW 28A.150.260, including providing additional staff for class size reduction beyond class sizes allocated in the prototypical school model and additional staff beyond the staffing ratios allocated in the prototypical school formula;
- 20 <u>(iii) Program components under RCW 28A.150.200, 28A.150.220, or</u> 21 <u>28A.150.260, not otherwise included on other lines;</u>
- 22 <u>(iv) Program components to support students in the program of</u> 23 special education;
- 24 (v) Program components of professional learning, as defined by 25 RCW 28A.415.430, beyond that allocated under RCW 28A.150.415;
 - (vi) Extracurricular activities;

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- 27 <u>(vii) Extended school days or an extended school year;</u>
- 28 <u>(viii) Additional course offerings beyond the minimum</u>
 29 <u>instructional program established in the state's statutory program of</u>
 30 basic education;
 - (ix) Activities associated with early learning programs;
- 32 <u>(x) Activities associated with providing the student</u>
 33 <u>transportation program;</u>
- 34 <u>(xi) Any additional salary costs attributable to the provision or</u> 35 <u>administration of the enrichment activities allowed under RCW</u> 36 <u>28A.150.276;</u>
- 37 <u>(xii) Additional activities or enhancements that the office of</u>
 38 <u>the superintendent of public instruction determines to be a</u>
 39 <u>documented and demonstrated enrichment of the state's statutory</u>
 40 program of basic education under RCW 28A.150.276; and

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1 (xiii) All other costs not otherwise identified in other line 2 items.

- (d) For any salary and related benefit costs identified in (c)(xi), (xii), and (xiii) of this subsection, the school district shall maintain a record describing how these expenditures are documented and demonstrated enrichment of the state's statutory program of basic education. School districts shall maintain these records until the state auditor has completed the audit under RCW 43.09.2856.
 - (2) A capital projects fund shall be established for major capital purposes. All statutory references to a "building fund" shall mean the capital projects fund so established. Money to be deposited into the capital projects fund shall include, but not be limited to, bond proceeds, proceeds from excess levies authorized by RCW 84.52.053, state apportionment proceeds as authorized by RCW 28A.150.270, earnings from capital projects fund investments as authorized by RCW 28A.320.310 and 28A.320.320, and state forest revenues transferred pursuant to subsection (3) of this section.
 - Money derived from the sale of bonds, including interest earnings thereof, may only be used for those purposes described in RCW 28A.530.010, except that accrued interest paid for bonds shall be deposited in the debt service fund.
 - Money to be deposited into the capital projects fund shall include but not be limited to rental and lease proceeds as authorized by RCW 28A.335.060, and proceeds from the sale of real property as authorized by RCW 28A.335.130.
 - Money legally deposited into the capital projects fund from other sources may be used for the purposes described in RCW 28A.530.010, and for the purposes of:
 - (a) Major renovation and replacement of facilities and systems where periodical repairs are no longer economical or extend the useful life of the facility or system beyond its original planned useful life. Such renovation and replacement shall include, but shall not be limited to, major repairs, exterior painting of facilities, replacement and refurbishment of roofing, exterior walls, windows, heating and ventilating systems, floor covering in classrooms and public or common areas, and electrical and plumbing systems.
- 38 (b) Renovation and rehabilitation of playfields, athletic fields, 39 and other district real property.

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(c) The conduct of preliminary energy audits and energy audits of school district buildings. For the purpose of this section:

- (i) "Preliminary energy audits" means a determination of the energy consumption characteristics of a building, including the size, type, rate of energy consumption, and major energy using systems of the building.
- (ii) "Energy audit" means a survey of a building or complex which identifies the type, size, energy use level, and major energy using systems; which determines appropriate energy conservation maintenance or operating procedures and assesses any need for the acquisition and installation of energy conservation measures, including solar energy and renewable resource measures.
- (iii) "Energy capital improvement" means the installation, or modification of the installation, of energy conservation measures in a building which measures are primarily intended to reduce energy consumption or allow the use of an alternative energy source.
- (d) Those energy capital improvements which are identified as being cost-effective in the audits authorized by this section.
- (e) Purchase or installation of additional major items of equipment and furniture: PROVIDED, That vehicles shall not be purchased with capital projects fund money.
- (f)(i) Costs associated with implementing technology systems, facilities, and projects, including acquiring hardware, licensing software, and online applications and training related to the installation of the foregoing. However, the software or applications must be an integral part of the district's technology systems, facilities, or projects.
- (ii) Costs associated with the application and modernization of technology systems for operations and instruction including, but not limited to, the ongoing fees for online applications, subscriptions, or software licenses, including upgrades and incidental services, and ongoing training related to the installation and integration of these products and services. However, to the extent the funds are used for the purpose under this subsection (2)(f)(ii), the school district shall transfer to the district's general fund the portion of the capital projects fund used for this purpose. The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall develop accounting guidelines for these transfers in accordance with internal revenue service regulations.

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(g) Major equipment repair, painting of facilities, and other major preventative maintenance purposes. However, to the extent the funds are used for the purpose under this subsection (2)(g), the school district shall transfer to the district's general fund the portion of the capital projects fund used for this purpose. The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall develop accounting guidelines for these transfers in accordance with internal revenue service regulations. Based on the district's most recent two-year history of general fund maintenance expenditures, funds used for this purpose may not replace routine annual preventive maintenance expenditures made from the district's general fund.

- (3) A debt service fund to provide for tax proceeds, other revenues, and disbursements as authorized in chapter 39.44 RCW. State forestland revenues that are deposited in a school district's debt service fund pursuant to RCW 79.64.110 and to the extent not necessary for payment of debt service on school district bonds may be transferred by the school district into the district's capital projects fund.
- 19 (4) An associated student body fund as authorized by RCW 20 28A.325.030.
- 21 (5) Advance refunding bond funds and refunded bond funds to 22 provide for the proceeds and disbursements as authorized in chapter 23 39.53 RCW.
 - **Sec. 2.** RCW 43.09.2856 and 2018 c 266 s 406 are each amended to read as follows:
 - (1) Beginning with the 2019-20 school year, to ensure that school district local revenues are used solely for purposes of enriching the state's statutory program of basic education, the state auditor's regular financial audits of school districts must include a review of the expenditure of school district local revenues for compliance with RCW 28A.150.276, including the spending plan approved by the superintendent of public instruction under RCW 28A.505.240 and its implementation, and any supplemental contracts entered into under RCW 28A.400.200. The audit must also include a review of the expenditure schedule and supporting documentation required by RCW 28A.320.330(1)(c).
- 37 (2) If an audit under subsection (1) of this section results in 38 findings that a school district has failed to comply with these 39 requirements, then within ninety days of completing the audit the

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- auditor must report the findings to the superintendent of public instruction, the office of financial management, and the education operating budget committees of the legislature. If the superintendent of public instruction receives a report of findings from the state auditor that an expenditure of a school district is out of compliance with the requirements of RCW 28A.150.276, and the finding is not resolved in the subsequent audit, the maximum taxes levied for collection by the school district under RCW 84.52.0531 in the following calendar year shall be reduced by the expenditure amount identified by the state auditor.
 - (3) The use of the state allocation provided for professional learning under RCW 28A.150.415 must be audited as part of the regular financial audits of school districts by the state auditor's office to ensure compliance with the limitations and conditions of RCW 28A.150.415.
- **Sec. 3.** RCW 28A.150.390 and 2018 c 266 s 102 are each amended to read as follows:
 - (1) The superintendent of public instruction shall submit to each regular session of the legislature during an odd-numbered year a programmed budget request for special education programs for students with disabilities. Funding for programs operated by local school districts shall be on an excess cost basis from appropriations provided by the legislature for special education programs for students with disabilities and shall take account of state funds accruing through RCW 28A.150.260 (4)(a), (5), (6), and (8) and 28A.150.415.
 - (2) The excess cost allocation to school districts shall be based on the following:
 - (a) A district's annual average headcount enrollment of students ages birth through four and those five year olds not yet enrolled in kindergarten who are eligible for and enrolled in special education, multiplied by the district's base allocation per full-time equivalent student, multiplied by 1.15; and
 - (b) A district's annual average full-time equivalent basic education enrollment, multiplied by the district's funded enrollment percent, multiplied by the district's base allocation per full-time equivalent student, multiplied by 0.9609.
 - (3) As used in this section:

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- 1 (a) "Base allocation" means the total state allocation to all schools in the district generated by the distribution formula under 3 RCW 28A.150.260 (4)(a), (5), (6), and (8) and the allocation under 4 RCW 28A.150.415, to be divided by the district's full-time equivalent enrollment.
- 6 (b) "Basic education enrollment" means enrollment of resident
 7 students including nonresident students enrolled under RCW
 8 28A.225.225 and students from nonhigh districts enrolled under RCW
 9 28A.225.210 and excluding students residing in another district
 10 enrolled as part of an interdistrict cooperative program under RCW
 11 28A.225.250.
- 12 (c) "Enrollment percent" means the district's resident special 13 education annual average enrollment, excluding students ages birth 14 through four and those five year olds not yet enrolled in 15 kindergarten, as a percent of the district's annual average full-time 16 equivalent basic education enrollment.
 - (d) "Funded enrollment percent" means:

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- 18 <u>(i)</u> The lesser of the district's actual enrollment percent or 19 thirteen and five-tenths percent; or
- 20 <u>(ii) For school districts with a student enrollment under one</u> 21 <u>thousand students, the actual enrollment percent, if above thirteen</u> 22 <u>and five-tenths percent</u>.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. A new section is added to chapter 28A.150 RCW to read as follows:
- Subject to amounts appropriated for this specific purpose, school districts shall receive additional funding for students that are eligible for safety net awards under RCW 28A.150.392. Additional funds allocated under this section shall be the difference between:
- 29 (1) The base allocation as defined in RCW 28A.150.390(3)(a), 30 multiplied by the excess cost multiplier under RCW 28A.150.390(2)(b); 31 and
- 32 (2) The safety net eligibility threshold designated by the office 33 of the superintendent of public instruction in the annual special 34 education safety net application.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 5. A new section is added to chapter 28A.300 RCW to read as follows:
- 37 Subject to amounts appropriated for this specific purpose, the 38 office of the superintendent of public instruction shall allocate an

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amount equal to five hundred dollars per annual average full-time equivalent student, as increased for inflation beginning in 2020, to school districts that meet the following criteria:

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- (1) An annual average full-time equivalent enrollment that is less than one thousand students;
- (2) An annual average full-time equivalent enrollment that is greater than twenty thousand students, and a percentage of students eligible for free and reduced-price lunch that exceeds the statewide average percentage of students eligible for free and reduced-price lunch; or
- 11 (3) An annual average full-time equivalent enrollment that is 12 greater than forty thousand students.

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