
SENATE BILL 6521

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2020 Regular Session

By Senators Wellman, Hunt, Mullet, and Wilson, C.

Read first time 01/20/20. Referred to Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to creating an innovative learning pilot program;
2 adding a new section to chapter 28A.300 RCW; and declaring an
3 emergency.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.300
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 (1) By July 1, 2020, the office of the superintendent of public
8 instruction shall create and administer an innovative learning pilot
9 program to authorize full-time enrollment funding for students
10 participating in approved mastery-based learning programs.

11 (2) To participate in the innovative learning pilot program,
12 school districts must submit an application to the office of the
13 superintendent of public instruction with the following components:

14 (a) A description of the mastery-based learning program that the
15 school district intends to implement and the number of students that
16 are expected to participate;

17 (b) An explanation of the goals of the mastery-based learning
18 program and how the school district intends to measure and assess
19 attainment of the goals; and

1 (c) A description of the partnerships between the school district
2 and community businesses and organizations that will enhance project-
3 based learning opportunities.

4 (3) The office of the superintendent of public instruction must
5 review submitted applications and approve up to five applicant school
6 districts that demonstrate the capacity to operate a mastery-based
7 learning program likely to result in meaningful project-based
8 learning opportunities aligned to the personal career goals of
9 students.

10 (4) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall
11 adopt rules necessary for the effective and efficient implementation
12 of this section, including rules that define full-time enrollment
13 standards for students based on regular participation in an approved
14 mastery-based learning program rather than hours of seat time. Rules
15 adopted pursuant to this section must permit participating school
16 districts to report full-time equivalent students in an approved
17 mastery-based program for general apportionment funding.

18 (5) By December 1, 2022, the office of the superintendent of
19 public instruction must report to the legislature regarding the
20 number of school districts that have applied to participate in the
21 innovative learning pilot program.

22 (6) For purposes of this section, "mastery-based learning
23 program" means an educational program where students participate in
24 project-based learning aligned to personal career goals and advance
25 upon demonstrated mastery of content. Mastery-based learning programs
26 may include apprenticeships, internships, and off-campus programming
27 that students attend as part of their project-based learning.

28 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** This act is necessary for the immediate
29 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of
30 the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes
31 effect immediately.

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