
ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1476

State of Washington

67th Legislature

2021 Regular Session

By House Appropriations (originally sponsored by Representatives Dolan, Sullivan, Ortiz-Self, Callan, Santos, Ryu, Shewmake, J. Johnson, Valdez, Eslick, Rule, Lekanoff, Stonier, Ramel, Tharinger, Peterson, and Pollet)

READ FIRST TIME 02/22/21.

1 AN ACT Relating to enrollment stabilization funding to address
2 enrollment declines due to the COVID-19 pandemic; amending RCW
3 84.52.0531; and creating a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature recognizes that the
6 COVID-19 pandemic has significantly changed the delivery of education
7 across the state, as school districts transition to remote learning
8 environments to protect the health of students and staff. The
9 legislature also recognizes that state funding formulas are largely
10 driven by enrollment and the pandemic has resulted in unforeseen,
11 temporary enrollment declines in many districts. Funding declines due
12 to temporary, unforeseen changes in enrollment can affect a
13 district's ability to maintain the staffing and resources needed to
14 deliver education services. With this act and in the operating
15 budget, the legislature intends to provide stabilizing funding to
16 districts that have seen temporary enrollment declines due to the
17 COVID-19 pandemic.

18 **Sec. 2.** RCW 84.52.0531 and 2019 c 410 s 2 are each amended to
19 read as follows:

1 (1) Beginning with taxes levied for collection in 2020, the
2 maximum dollar amount which may be levied by or for any school
3 district for enrichment levies under RCW 84.52.053 is equal to the
4 lesser of two dollars and fifty cents per thousand dollars of the
5 assessed value of property in the school district or the maximum per-
6 pupil limit. This maximum dollar amount shall be reduced accordingly
7 as provided under RCW 43.09.2856(2).

8 (2) The definitions in this subsection apply to this section
9 unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

10 (a) For the purpose of this section, "inflation" means, for any
11 school year, the rate of the yearly increase of the previous calendar
12 year's annual average consumer price index for all urban consumers,
13 Seattle area, using the official current base compiled by the bureau
14 of labor statistics, United States department of labor.

15 (b) "Maximum per-pupil limit" means:

16 (i) Two thousand five hundred dollars, as increased by inflation
17 beginning with property taxes levied for collection in 2020,
18 multiplied by the number of average annual full-time equivalent
19 students enrolled in the school district in the prior school year,
20 for school districts with fewer than forty thousand annual full-time
21 equivalent students enrolled in the school district in the prior
22 school year; or

23 (ii) Three thousand dollars, as increased by inflation beginning
24 with property taxes levied for collection in 2020, multiplied by the
25 number of average annual full-time equivalent students enrolled in
26 the school district in the prior school year, for school districts
27 with forty thousand or more annual full-time equivalent students
28 enrolled in the school district in the prior school year.

29 (c) "Prior school year" means the most recent school year
30 completed prior to the year in which the levies are to be collected,
31 except as follows:

32 (i) In the 2022 calendar year, if 2019-20 school year average
33 annual full-time equivalent enrollment is greater than the school
34 district's 2020-21 school year average annual full-time equivalent
35 enrollment and the school district is open for in-person instruction
36 to all students by the beginning of the 2021-22 school year, "prior
37 school year" means the 2019-20 school year.

38 (ii) In the 2023 calendar year, if 2019-20 school year average
39 annual full-time equivalent enrollment is greater than the school
40 district's 2021-22 school year average annual full-time equivalent

1 enrollment and the school district is open for in-person instruction
2 to all students by the beginning of the 2021-22 school year, "prior
3 school year" means the 2019-20 school year.

4 (iii) For purposes of this section, "open for in-person
5 instruction to all students" means that all students in all grades
6 have the option to participate in at least 40 hours of planned in-
7 person instruction per month and the school follows state department
8 of health guidance and recommendations for resuming in-person
9 instruction to the greatest extent practicable.

10 (3) For districts in a high/nonhigh relationship, the enrollments
11 of the nonhigh students attending the high school shall only be
12 counted by the nonhigh school districts for purposes of funding under
13 this section.

14 (4) For school districts participating in an innovation academy
15 cooperative established under RCW 28A.340.080, enrollments of
16 students attending the academy shall be adjusted so that each
17 participant district receives its proportional share of student
18 enrollments for purposes of funding under this section.

19 (5) Beginning with propositions for enrichment levies for
20 collection in calendar year 2020 and thereafter, a district must
21 receive approval of an enrichment levy expenditure plan under RCW
22 28A.505.240 before submission of the proposition to the voters.

23 (6) The superintendent of public instruction shall develop rules
24 and regulations and inform school districts of the pertinent data
25 necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.

26 (7) Beginning with taxes levied for collection in 2018,
27 enrichment levy revenues must be deposited in a separate subfund of
28 the school district's general fund pursuant to RCW 28A.320.330, and
29 for the 2018-19 school year are subject to the restrictions of RCW
30 28A.150.276 and the audit requirements of RCW 43.09.2856.

31 (8) Funds collected from levies for transportation vehicles,
32 construction, modernization, or remodeling of school facilities as
33 established in RCW 84.52.053 are not subject to the levy limitations
34 in subsections (1) through (5) of this section.

--- END ---