
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2068

State of Washington

67th Legislature

2022 Regular Session

By House Children, Youth & Families (originally sponsored by Representatives Stonier, Abbarno, Bronoske, Dolan, Ryu, Santos, Sells, Wylie, Orwall, Rule, Harris-Talley, Wicks, Gilday, Valdez, Bateman, Taylor, and Kloba)

READ FIRST TIME 02/03/22.

1 AN ACT Relating to creating the imagination library of Washington
2 program; and adding a new section to chapter 43.216 RCW.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 43.216
5 RCW to read as follows:

6 (1) The following definitions apply to this section:

7 (a) "Eligible children" means children from birth to age five;

8 (b) "National nonprofit foundation" means a national nonprofit
9 foundation that exists for the purpose of working with local entities
10 to identify eligible children and mail age-appropriate, high quality
11 books each month to those children at no cost to families; and

12 (c) "Program" means the imagination library of Washington program
13 created under subsection (2) of this section.

14 (2) Subject to the amounts appropriated for this specific
15 purpose, the department, in coordination with the office of the
16 superintendent of public instruction, shall select a Washington
17 state-based qualified 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization physically
18 located in Washington state to create and operate the program. The
19 nonprofit organization selected under this subsection shall:

20 (a) Manage the daily operations of the program;

21 (b) Establish affiliate programs across the state;

1 (c) Advance and strengthen the affiliate programs with the goal
2 of increasing enrollment in those programs;

3 (d) Develop, promote, and coordinate a public awareness campaign
4 to make donors aware of the opportunity to donate to affiliate
5 programs and make the public aware of the opportunity to register
6 eligible children to receive books through the program; and

7 (e) Contract with a national nonprofit foundation to provide age-
8 appropriate, high quality books each month to eligible children at no
9 cost to families.

10 (3)(a) By November 1, 2022, and annually thereafter, the
11 nonprofit organization selected to operate the program under
12 subsection (2) of this section shall submit a report to the relevant
13 committees of the legislature and the governor describing:

14 (i) The number of affiliate programs established by the program;

15 (ii) The number of children enrolled in each affiliate program;

16 and

17 (iii) The number of children statewide enrolled in the program.

18 (b) The report in this subsection must be submitted in compliance
19 with RCW 43.01.036.

20 (4)(a) The nonprofit organization selected to operate the program
21 under subsection (2) of this section shall provide payment to the
22 national nonprofit foundation under subsection (2)(e) of this section
23 that equals 50 percent of the cost to provide books to eligible
24 children enrolled in the program.

25 (b) Each affiliate program shall provide payment to the program
26 under subsection (2) of this section that equals the remaining cost
27 to provide books to eligible children enrolled in the program.

28 (c) Nothing in this section requires that state funding be
29 provided to the nonprofit organization selected under this subsection
30 or to the program except as provided in subsection (5) of this
31 section.

32 (5) The department may seek and accept gifts, grants, or
33 endowments from public or private sources for the program and may
34 spend any gifts, grants, or endowments or income from public or
35 private sources on the program according to their terms.

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