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HOUSE BILL 2068

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State of Washington

67th Legislature

2022 Regular Session

By Representatives Stonier, Abbarno, Bronoske, Dolan, Ryu, Santos, Sells, Wylie, Orwall, Rule, Harris-Talley, Wicks, Gilday, Valdez, Bateman, Taylor, and Kloba

Read first time 01/20/22. Referred to Committee on Children, Youth & Families.

1 AN ACT Relating to creating the imagination library of Washington  
2 program; and adding a new section to chapter 28A.300 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 28A.300  
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 office of the superintendent of public instruction shall  
16 select a Washington state-based qualified 501(c)(3) nonprofit  
17 organization physically located in Washington state to create and  
18 operate the program. The nonprofit organization selected under this  
19 section shall:

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

1 (b) Establish affiliate programs in all Washington counties and  
2 cities;

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

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

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

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

16 (i) The number of affiliate programs established by the program;  
17 (ii) The number of children enrolled in each affiliate program;  
18 and

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

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

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

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

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

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