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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5497**

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**State of Washington**

**67th Legislature**

**2022 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Early Learning & K-12 Education (originally sponsored by Senators C. Wilson, Nobles, Conway, Das, Hunt, Lovelett, Lovick, Nguyen, Saldaña, and Wellman; by request of State Board of Education)

READ FIRST TIME 01/31/22.

1 AN ACT Relating to extending voting authority to student members  
2 on the state board of education; and amending RCW 28A.305.011.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.305.011 and 2006 c 263 s 105 are each amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 (1) The membership of the state board of education shall be  
7 composed of sixteen members who are residents of the state of  
8 Washington:

9 (a) Seven shall be members representing the educational system,  
10 as follows:

11 (i) Five members elected by school district directors. Three of  
12 the members elected by school district directors shall be residents  
13 of western Washington and two members shall be residents of eastern  
14 Washington;

15 (ii) One member elected at large by the members of the boards of  
16 directors of all private schools in the state meeting the  
17 requirements of RCW 28A.195.010; and

18 (iii) The superintendent of public instruction;

19 (b) Seven members appointed by the governor; and

20 (c) Two students selected in a manner determined by the state  
21 board of education.

1 (2) Initial appointments shall be for terms from one to four  
2 years in length, with the terms expiring on the second Monday of  
3 January of the applicable year. As the terms of the first appointees  
4 expire or vacancies on the board occur, the governor shall appoint or  
5 reappoint members of the board to complete the initial terms or to  
6 four-year terms, as appropriate.

7 (a) Appointees of the governor must be individuals who have  
8 demonstrated interest in public schools and are supportive of  
9 educational improvement, have a positive record of service, and who  
10 will devote sufficient time to the responsibilities of the board.

11 (b) In appointing board members, the governor shall consider the  
12 diversity of the population of the state.

13 (c) All appointments to the board made by the governor are  
14 subject to confirmation by the senate.

15 (d) No person may serve as a member of the board, except the  
16 superintendent of public instruction, for more than two consecutive  
17 full four-year terms.

18 (3) The governor may remove an appointed member of the board for  
19 neglect of duty, misconduct, malfeasance, or misfeasance in office,  
20 or for incompetent or unprofessional conduct as defined in chapter  
21 18.130 RCW. In such a case, the governor shall file with the  
22 secretary of state a statement of the causes for and the order of  
23 removal from office, and the secretary of state shall send a  
24 certified copy of the statement of causes and order of removal to the  
25 last known post office address of the member.

26 (4)(a) The chair of the board shall be elected by a majority vote  
27 of the members of the board. The chair of the board shall serve a  
28 term of two years, and may be reelected to an additional term. A  
29 member of the board may not serve as chair for more than two  
30 consecutive terms.

31 (b) (~~Eight~~) Except as provided in (d) of this subsection, nine  
32 voting members of the board constitute a quorum for the transaction  
33 of business.

34 (c) All members (~~except the student members~~) are voting  
35 members.

36 (d) A student member selected under subsection (1)(c) of this  
37 section shall excuse themselves from voting on matters directly  
38 relating to graduation requirement changes that apply to the  
39 student's school and graduating class. In the event of a student  
40 member excusing themselves under this subsection, eight voting

1 members of the board constitute a quorum for the transaction of  
2 business.

3 (5) Members of the board appointed by the governor who are not  
4 public employees shall be compensated in accordance with RCW  
5 43.03.250 and shall be reimbursed for travel expenses incurred in  
6 carrying out the duties of the board in accordance with RCW 43.03.050  
7 and 43.03.060.

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