
SENATE BILL 5497

State of Washington

67th Legislature

2022 Regular Session

By Senators C. Wilson, Nobles, Conway, Das, Hunt, Lovelett, Lovick, Nguyen, Saldaña, and Wellman; by request of State Board of Education

Prefiled 12/07/21. Read first time 01/10/22. Referred to Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education.

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~~) Nine voting members of the board constitute a
32 quorum for the transaction of business.

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

35 (5) Members of the board appointed by the governor who are not
36 public employees shall be compensated in accordance with RCW
37 43.03.250 and shall be reimbursed for travel expenses incurred in

1 carrying out the duties of the board in accordance with RCW 43.03.050
2 and 43.03.060.

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