
HOUSE BILL 1956

State of Washington

68th Legislature

2024 Regular Session

By Representatives Leavitt, Griffey, Ryu, Couture, Ramel, Slatter, Reed, Ormsby, Barnard, Callan, Timmons, Kloba, Cheney, Doglio, Paul, Berg, Lekanoff, Reeves, Riccelli, Wylie, Hackney, Pollet, and Shavers; by request of Office of the Governor

Prefiled 12/15/23. Read first time 01/08/24. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to fentanyl and other substance use prevention
2 education; and adding new sections to chapter 28A.170 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.170
5 RCW to read as follows:

6 (1)(a) By September 1, 2024, the office of the superintendent of
7 public instruction, in collaboration with educational service
8 districts, the health care authority, the department of health, and
9 the department of children, youth, and families, shall review
10 frequently used substance use prevention education materials and
11 resources provided to students and their families in middle and high
12 school and identify changes or additional materials and resources.

13 (b) Changes and additions must include information about the
14 potential lethality and other risks associated with the use of
15 fentanyl and other opioids, and behavioral health resources.

16 (2) By December 1, 2024, the office of the superintendent of
17 public instruction shall: (a) Make updated substance use prevention
18 education materials and resources available on the agency's public
19 website for use by school districts, educational service districts,
20 and community-based organizations working with school-aged youth; and

21 (b) complete revisions to the health and physical education K-12

1 learning standards that include knowledge and understanding related
2 to fentanyl, opioid, and other life-threatening drug use.

3 (3) The office of the superintendent of public instruction and
4 partners in subsection (1)(a) of this section shall consult with
5 Indian tribes for input on materials and resources as they are being
6 developed to ensure effectiveness for use in state-tribal education
7 compact schools and for tribal children, youth, and their families.

8 (4) The office of the superintendent of public instruction, in
9 consultation with educational service districts, the health care
10 authority, the department of health, and the department of children,
11 youth, and families, shall review substance use prevention education
12 materials and resources at least once every other year to ensure they
13 contain the most current information and must be based on strategies
14 that have evidence of effectiveness to the greatest extent possible.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.170
16 RCW to read as follows:

17 (1) All school districts that serve students in middle and high
18 school are strongly encouraged to work with their educational service
19 districts and substance abuse intervention specialists in RCW
20 28A.170.080 to provide fentanyl and other opioid prevention education
21 to students and invite students' families and guardians where
22 possible.

23 (2) Education to prevent fentanyl and other opioid use included
24 in health standards must be provided once a year to all students in
25 grade seven and grade nine, with information on behavioral health
26 resources as a component of required health programs and schools are
27 encouraged to provide additional programming at their discretion.

28 (3) When providing health education related to substance use,
29 school districts and educational service districts must consider
30 using the substance use prevention education materials and resources
31 developed in section 1(1) of this act.

32 (4) Fentanyl and other opioid prevention education delivered
33 through health classes or other discretionary programs must be
34 provided to as many seventh and ninth grade students as possible
35 during the remainder of the 2024-25 school year, and annually to
36 seventh and ninth grade students thereafter.

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