
SENATE BILL 5071

State of Washington

68th Legislature

2023 Regular Session

By Senators Nobles, Wagoner, Conway, Hunt, Kuderer, Lovick, Randall, Salomon, Shewmake, Stanford, Trudeau, Wellman, C. Wilson, J. Wilson, and L. Wilson

Prefiled 12/20/22. Read first time 01/09/23. Referred to Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to creating the purple star award; adding a new
2 section to chapter 28A.625 RCW; and creating a new section.

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.625
5 RCW to read as follows:

6 (1)(a) The purple star award is created to recognize military
7 friendly school districts that show a commitment to students and
8 families connected to the nation's military. School districts that
9 earn the award will receive a special purple star recognition to
10 display on site. The office of the superintendent of public
11 instruction may collaborate with a state agency or nonprofit
12 organization that has experience serving the needs of a diverse K-12
13 population to establish and administer the award. A school district
14 must be considered for the purple star award if it applies and
15 completes all the required activities and at least one optional
16 activity listed in this section.

17 (b) A school district must complete the following required
18 activities to be considered to receive the purple star award:

19 (i) The school district must have a staff point of contact for
20 military students and families. The staff point of contact must:

1 (A) Work jointly with the state military family education liaison
2 under RCW 28A.705.010, article VIII to serve military families;

3 (B) Serve as the primary liaison between military families and
4 the school district;

5 (C) Complete professional development on special considerations
6 for military students and families under relevant state and federal
7 law; and

8 (D) Identify and inform teachers of military-connected students
9 in their classrooms and the special considerations military families
10 and students should receive under the interstate compact on
11 educational opportunity for military children under RCW 28A.705.010;
12 and

13 (ii) The school district maintains a dedicated page on its
14 website featuring resources for military families.

15 (c) A school district must complete at least one of the following
16 optional activities to be considered to receive the purple star
17 award:

18 (i) The school district provides professional development for
19 additional staff on special considerations for military students and
20 families;

21 (ii) The school district board of directors passes a resolution
22 publicizing the school district's support for military children and
23 families; or

24 (iii) The school district hosts a military recognition event that
25 demonstrates a military friendly culture.

26 (2) The office of the superintendent of public instruction must
27 make available on its website:

28 (a) A simple application for a school district to submit for
29 consideration to receive a purple star award. The application must
30 require evidence of meeting each of the required activities under
31 subsection (1)(b) of this section and at least one optional activity
32 under subsection (1)(c) of this section necessary to receive the
33 purple star award;

34 (b) A timeline for submittal of an application for consideration
35 and for announcement of the award recipients; and

36 (c) The criteria being used to review the applications received
37 and determine which school districts receive the award.

38 (3) The purple star award shall be awarded every two years,
39 beginning in 2024.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** If specific funding for the purposes of
2 this act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not
3 provided by June 30, 2023, in the omnibus operating appropriations
4 act, this act is null and void.

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