
SENATE BILL 5626

State of Washington

68th Legislature

2023 Regular Session

By Senators Lias, Warnick, Hunt, Nobles, Pedersen, and C. Wilson

Read first time 01/30/23. Referred to Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to expanding and enhancing media literacy and
2 digital citizenship in K-12 education; adding new sections to chapter
3 28A.300 RCW; and providing an expiration date.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.300
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 (1) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this
8 specific purpose, the office of the superintendent of public
9 instruction shall establish a program for the purpose of expanding
10 the capability of school districts to integrate media literacy and
11 digital citizenship into given subject areas through teacher support.
12 As part of this program, the office of the superintendent of public
13 instruction shall assemble a cadre of subject-area teachers who will
14 work to help ensure media literacy is effectively integrated into
15 their respective subject area under any revised state learning
16 standards created by the office of the superintendent of public
17 instruction under RCW 28A.655.070.

18 (2) The program created under this section must operate in a two-
19 year cycle, under the following schedule:

20 (a) In year one, the purpose of the program will be to support a
21 cadre of teachers in analyzing how the full range of media literacy

1 skills fall within current state learning standards, including the
2 identification of gaps in learning standards where media literacy
3 skills are not addressed.

4 (b) In year two, the purpose of the program will be to support a
5 cadre of teachers in becoming trainers on media literacy within their
6 given subject area. These teachers shall develop and deliver
7 professional development focused on the ways in which any revised
8 state learning standards will affect teaching and learning within
9 their given subject areas. The professional development must include
10 instruction to other teachers and integrate feedback and suggestions
11 in developing future training sessions.

12 (3) Teachers in the program created under this section will
13 receive a stipend for their participation that may vary based on the
14 role of the teacher in either developing and delivering professional
15 development or participating in training sessions.

16 (4) Funds equivalent to the stipends issued under subsection (3)
17 of this section may also be disbursed to school districts for the
18 purpose of substitute teachers or other school district costs
19 associated with a teacher's absence due to participation in the
20 program.

21 (5) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall
22 establish and publish criteria for participation in this program
23 including, but not limited to, teacher qualifications, participation
24 guidelines, and reimbursement procedures.

25 (6) The office of the superintendent of public instruction may
26 adopt rules for the effective implementation of this section.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.300
28 RCW to read as follows:

29 (1) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall
30 establish a grant program for the purpose of supporting school
31 districts in integrating media literacy into the K-12 educational
32 system. The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall
33 establish and publish criteria for the grant program, and may accept
34 gifts, grants, or endowments from public or private sources for the
35 grant program.

36 (2) Grants awarded under this section may be awarded to school
37 districts or educational service districts for the following
38 purposes:

- 1 (a) Developing strategies to utilize existing funding in
2 integrating media literacy into various subject areas;
- 3 (b) Organizing learning sessions with experts in the field of
4 media literacy and digital citizenship;
- 5 (c) Professional development on issues of media literacy
6 including, but not limited to, on any revised state learning
7 standards created by the office of the superintendent of public
8 instruction under RCW 28A.655.070 that include media literacy. The
9 professional development may include training for district leaders,
10 administrative staff, instructional staff, or any combination
11 thereof;
- 12 (d) Ongoing support to school districts in considering actions to
13 ensure successful implementation of any revised state learning
14 standards under RCW 28A.655.070 that include the areas of either
15 media literacy, digital citizenship, or both; and
- 16 (e) Acquiring resources on media literacy instruction and
17 integration.
- 18 (3) A school district or educational service district that
19 receives a grant under this section is not prohibited from receiving
20 a grant in subsequent grant cycles.
- 21 (4) The establishment of the grant program under this section is
22 subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this specific
23 purpose.
- 24 (5) This section expires July 31, 2033.

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