

---

**SENATE BILL 5969**

---

**State of Washington**

**68th Legislature**

**2024 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Dhingra, Wellman, Nobles, and Pedersen

Prefiled 01/04/24. Read first time 01/08/24. Referred to Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to school districts' authority to contract  
2 indebtedness for school construction; and amending RCW 28A.530.080.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.530.080 and 2010 c 241 s 1 are each amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 (1) (a) In addition to the authority granted under RCW  
7 28A.530.010, a school district may contract indebtedness for any  
8 purpose specified in RCW 28A.530.010 (2) (~~(, (4), and)~~) through (5) or  
9 for the purpose of purchasing any real or personal property, or  
10 property rights, in connection with the exercise of any powers or  
11 duties which it is now or hereafter authorized to exercise, and issue  
12 bonds, notes, or other evidences of indebtedness therefor without a  
13 vote of the qualified electors of the district, subject to the  
14 limitations on indebtedness set forth in RCW 39.36.020(3) and this  
15 subsection.

16 (b) In order for a school district to contract indebtedness for  
17 any purpose specified in RCW 28A.530.010(3), the school district must  
18 not have been on binding conditions pursuant to RCW 28A.505.110 in  
19 the three years preceding the date of the contract.

20 (2) Before issuing nonvoted bonds in excess of (~~two hundred~~  
21 ~~fifty thousand dollars~~) \$250,000, a school district shall publish

1 notice of intent to issue such bonds and shall hold a public hearing  
2 on the proposal at any regular or special meeting of the school  
3 board. The notice shall designate: The date, time, and place of the  
4 hearing; the purpose and amount of the bonds; the type, terms, and  
5 conditions of bonds; and the means identified for repayment. The  
6 notice shall also state that any person may appear and be heard on  
7 the issue of issuing such bonds. The notice shall be published at  
8 least once each week for two consecutive weeks in a newspaper of  
9 general circulation in the district, or if there is none, in a  
10 newspaper of general circulation in the county or counties in which  
11 such district is a part. The last notice shall be published no later  
12 than seven days immediately before the hearing. At the conclusion of  
13 public comment, the board of directors may proceed to determine, by  
14 resolution, whether to issue such bonds.

15 (3) The public notice and hearing requirements in subsection (2)  
16 of this section shall not apply to any refinancing or refunding of  
17 outstanding nonvoted or voted bonds.

18 (4) Such bonds, notes, or other evidences of indebtedness shall  
19 be issued and sold in accordance with chapter 39.46 RCW, and the  
20 proceeds thereof shall be deposited in the capital projects fund, the  
21 transportation vehicle fund, or the general fund, as applicable.

--- END ---