
HOUSE BILL 1461

State of Washington 52nd Legislature 1991 Regular Session

By Representatives Phillips, Holland, Leonard, Peery, Wang, Brough, Rust, Cole, Wineberry, Valle, Betrozoff, Ebersole, Prentice, Heavey, Locke, Nelson, Anderson, Jacobsen, Pruitt, Rasmussen, H. Sommers, Appelwick, May, Dellwo, Winsley, Roland, Brekke and O'Brien.

Read first time January 30, 1991. Referred to Committee on Education\Appropriations.

1 AN ACT Relating to the voluntary elimination, reduction, or
2 prevention of minority group isolation in public elementary and
3 secondary schools; adding new sections to chapter 28A.600 RCW; and
4 making an appropriation.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** It is the intent of the legislature to
7 establish grants for magnet school programs. These grants are separate
8 from and in addition to the state funds allocated for the state's basic
9 program of education. The purposes of the grants are:

10 (1) To provide financial assistance to eligible school districts to
11 establish and operate magnet schools offering special curricula or
12 programs capable of attracting students of varied racial or ethnic
13 backgrounds; and

14 (2) To encourage through these magnet schools the voluntary
15 elimination, reduction, or prevention of minority group isolation in

1 elementary and secondary schools that have attendance areas with high
2 percentages of minority students.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A school district may apply for a grant
4 for magnet schools provided under section 3 of this act if the district
5 has a minority student population in excess of twenty-five percent and:

6 (1) Is implementing a plan undertaken according to a final order
7 issued by a court of the United States or a court of the state of
8 Washington that requires the desegregation of minority group segregated
9 children or faculty in the elementary and secondary schools of such
10 district; or

11 (2) Without having been required to do so, has developed and is
12 implementing or will, if assistance is made available to it under
13 sections 1 through 8 of this act, adopt and implement a plan that
14 reduces, eliminates, or prevents minority group isolation in elementary
15 and secondary schools with substantial proportions of minority group
16 students.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** From moneys appropriated by the
18 legislature for this purpose, the superintendent of public instruction
19 may provide grants to eligible local school districts for use in magnet
20 schools that are part of a desegregation plan and are designed to bring
21 students from different social, economic, ethnic, and racial
22 backgrounds together. The superintendent shall adopt rules for the
23 administration of grants provided under sections 1 through 8 of this
24 act.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The following conditions shall apply to
26 all schools considered for magnet schools funding for the purposes of
27 sections 1 through 8 of this act:

1 (1) The school would be racially imbalanced, as defined in state
2 board of education rules, without implementation by the district of a
3 desegregation busing program based on mandatory or voluntary
4 reassignment of students.

5 (2) The school offers a specialized curriculum that is capable of
6 attracting students from throughout the district and provides both a
7 strong foundation in basic skills and cultural, academic, or vocational
8 enrichment.

9 (3) The magnet programs shall be open to students of all levels of
10 academic ability and achievement. Selection shall not be based on
11 grade averages or test scores.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** (1) Grants for magnet schools provided
13 under sections 1 through 8 of this act may be used by school districts
14 for:

15 (a) Planning and promotional activities directly related to
16 expansion, continuation, or enhancement of academic programs and
17 services offered at magnet schools;

18 (b) The acquisition of books, materials, and equipment, including
19 computers and their maintenance and operation, that are necessary for
20 the conduct of programs in magnet schools;

21 (c) Staff development for employees assigned to magnet schools,
22 including stipends for program planning and inservice training that is
23 specifically designed to assist in the implementation of the magnet
24 program; and

25 (d) Additional certificated staff in magnet schools who are
26 assigned to instructional programs that are in addition to the school's
27 core basic skills curriculum and that are an integral part of the
28 magnet program.

1 (2) Grants shall be determined annually. Continued eligibility for
2 funding shall be contingent on the district demonstrating progress
3 towards desegregation goals. A school may not be included in
4 determining a district's state allocation of magnet school funding in
5 any school year if the district had received such support in the prior
6 school year and the minority percentage of the school increased
7 relative to the minority percentage of the district.

8 (3) Districts may not use the grants in any school to supplant
9 other moneys used previously to support that school, other than to
10 offset reductions in total federal funding received by the district for
11 magnet programs. Grants may be used for compensation of staff only if:

12 (a) These are new staff positions that provide instruction in
13 subjects outside of core basic skills areas and that have been added in
14 noncore subject areas since the 1990-91 school year; or

15 (b) The grant moneys are used to increase the number of staff
16 development days for the magnet schools' certificated instructional
17 staff over the actual number of supplemental contract days per employee
18 in 1990-91 plus any subsequent district-wide increases in supplemental
19 contract days.

20 (4) A maximum of ten percent of a district's grant amount may be
21 used for administrative planning at the district level.

22 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** Each application submitted to the
23 superintendent of public instruction for a grant for magnet school
24 programs shall be in the form that the superintendent may reasonably
25 require. Each application shall contain:

26 (1) The names of the schools where magnet programs will be
27 operating;

28 (2) The number of students the district intends to enroll in each
29 of these magnet programs;

1 (3) The student population of the school's regular attendance area,
2 including a breakdown by minority category;

3 (4) A proposed budget explaining how the state grant for magnet
4 school programs will be used;

5 (5) An explanation of any proposed collaborative efforts with
6 institutions of higher education, community-based organizations, the
7 superintendent, or any other private organizations, in implementing
8 magnet programs;

9 (6) An explanation of how students will be selected for
10 participation in magnet programs; and

11 (7) Assurances that the district will encourage parental
12 involvement in the magnet school programs.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** (1) In approving applications under
14 sections 1 through 8 of this act, the superintendent shall give
15 priority to:

16 (a) The number of minority children enrolled in the district and
17 the proportion of minority group children involved in any desegregation
18 plan;

19 (b) The need for assistance based on the expense or difficulty of
20 effectively carrying out a desegregation plan and the program or
21 projects for which assistance is sought; and

22 (c) The degree to which the program or project for which assistance
23 is sought affords promise of achieving the purposes of sections 1
24 through 8 of this act.

25 (2) In approving applications, the superintendent shall give
26 special consideration to the degree to which the program for which
27 assistance is sought involves the collaborative efforts of institutions
28 of higher education, community-based organizations, the superintendent,
29 or any other private organizations.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** (1) The superintendent of public
2 instruction shall distribute moneys appropriated by the legislature for
3 magnet school programs to selected school districts based on the number
4 of full-time equivalent students that the district intends to enroll in
5 its magnet programs.

6 (2) The superintendent shall award grants to school districts under
7 sections 1 through 8 of this act no later than June 30 preceding the
8 school year in which the grants will be allocated.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** Sections 1 through 8 of this act are
10 each added to chapter 28A.600 RCW.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 10.** The sum of six million dollars, or as
12 much thereof as is necessary, is appropriated for the biennium ending
13 June 30, 1993, from the general fund to the superintendent of public
14 instruction for the purposes of this act.