
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5843

State of Washington

60th Legislature

2007 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education (originally sponsored by Senators Oemig, Tom, Rockefeller, Zarelli and Keiser)

READ FIRST TIME 02/28/07.

1 AN ACT Relating to educational data and data systems; amending RCW
2 28A.410.070; adding a new section to chapter 28A.300 RCW; and creating
3 a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that:

6 (1) Reliable data on student progress, characteristics of students
7 and schools, and teacher qualifications and mobility is critical for
8 accountability to the state and to the public;

9 (2) Educational data should be made available as widely as possible
10 while appropriately protecting the privacy of individuals as provided
11 by law;

12 (3) School districts and the office of the superintendent of public
13 instruction need robust and compatible data systems and programs to
14 reduce inefficiencies caused by the lack of connectivity and to
15 minimize or eliminate multiple data entry; and

16 (4) Schools and districts should be supported in their management
17 of educational data and should have access to user-friendly programs
18 and reports that can be readily used by classroom teachers and building
19 principals to improve instruction.

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

3 (1) As a first step in establishing a framework and baseline
4 information for better linking data on students, teachers, and student
5 achievement, the office of the superintendent of public instruction
6 shall, to the extent funds are appropriated for this purpose, conduct
7 a feasibility study on establishing a statewide longitudinal
8 student-teacher data system. The primary purpose of the data system is
9 to better aid research into programs and interventions that are most
10 effective in improving student performance and to provide information
11 on areas within the educational system that need improvement.

12 (2) A preliminary set of data elements shall be developed by the
13 office of the superintendent of public instruction by December 2007.
14 The feasibility study shall include conducting pilot studies on the
15 collection of this preliminary set of identified data elements in a
16 minimum of five schools.

17 (3) By November 1, 2008, the office of the superintendent of public
18 instruction shall provide a final report on the results of the
19 feasibility study, including the results from the pilot studies, to the
20 appropriate policy and fiscal committees of the legislature.

21 (4) The topics covered in the feasibility study shall include, but
22 are not limited to:

23 (a) Detailed estimates on the cost of the development and
24 implementation of the data system;

25 (b) A final list of specific data elements that are necessary to
26 allow effective and efficient research on an individual school,
27 district, and statewide basis, and of those data elements,
28 identification of what data is currently reported by schools and school
29 districts and what is not reported;

30 (c) The standards needed for validation and verification of data
31 entered into the systems to ensure accuracy and compatibility of data;
32 and

33 (d) The staffing and related impacts on schools and school
34 districts from the collection of the recommended data elements and
35 consideration of ways to reduce duplicate reporting of data.

36 (5) In conducting the feasibility study, the office of the
37 superintendent of public instruction shall consult with the Washington
38 state institute for public policy, the center for analysis of

1 longitudinal data in education research, other research organizations
2 as appropriate, the association of Washington school principals, the
3 Washington association of school administrators, the Washington
4 education association, and the Washington state school directors'
5 association about the needed data elements for an effective statewide
6 longitudinal student-teacher data system.

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