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SENATE BILL 6369

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State of Washington                      60th Legislature                      2008 Regular Session

By Senators Eide, McAuliffe, Keiser, Franklin, and Rasmussen

Read first time 01/16/08. Referred to Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education.

1            AN ACT Relating to the Washington community learning center  
2 program; and amending RCW 28A.215.060.

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

4            **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.215.060 and 2007 c 400 s 5 are each amended to  
5 read as follows:

6            (1) The Washington community learning center program is  
7 established. The program shall be administered by the office of the  
8 superintendent of public instruction. The purposes of the program  
9 include:

10            (a) Supporting the creation or expansion of community learning  
11 centers that provide students with tutoring and educational enrichment  
12 when school is not in session;

13            (b) Providing training and professional development for community  
14 learning center program staff;

15            (c) Increasing public awareness of the availability and benefits of  
16 after-school programs; and

17            (d) Supporting statewide after-school intermediary organizations in  
18 their efforts to provide leadership, coordination, technical

1 assistance, professional development, advocacy, and programmatic  
2 support to the Washington community learning center programs and after-  
3 school programs throughout the state.

4 (2)(a) Subject to funds appropriated for this purpose, the office  
5 of the superintendent of public instruction may provide community  
6 learning center grants to any public or private organization that meets  
7 the eligibility criteria of the federal twenty-first century community  
8 learning centers program.

9 (b) Priority may be given to grant requests submitted jointly by  
10 one or more schools or school districts and one or more community-based  
11 organizations or other nonschool partners.

12 (c) Priority may also be given to grant requests for after-school  
13 programs focusing on improving mathematics achievement, particularly  
14 for middle and junior high school students.

15 (d) Priority shall be given to grant requests that:

16 (i) Focus on improving reading and mathematics proficiency for  
17 students who attend schools that have been identified as being in need  
18 of improvement under section 1116 of Title I of the federal no child  
19 left behind act of 2001; and

20 (ii) Include a public/private partnership agreement or proposal for  
21 how to provide free transportation for those students in need that are  
22 involved in the program.

23 (3) Community learning center grant funds may be used to carry out  
24 a broad array of out-of-school activities that support and enhance  
25 academic achievement. The activities may include but need not be  
26 limited to:

- 27 (a) Remedial and academic enrichment;
- 28 (b) Mathematics, reading, and science education;
- 29 (c) Arts and music education;
- 30 (d) Entrepreneurial education;
- 31 (e) Community service;
- 32 (f) Tutoring and mentoring programs;
- 33 (g) Programs enhancing the language skills and academic achievement  
34 of limited English proficient students;
- 35 (h) Recreational and athletic activities;
- 36 (i) Telecommunications and technology education;
- 37 (j) Programs that promote parental involvement and family literacy;

1 (k) Drug and violence prevention, counseling, and character  
2 education programs; and

3 (l) Programs that assist students who have been truant, suspended,  
4 or expelled, to improve their academic achievement.

5 (4) Each community learning center grant may be made for a maximum  
6 of five years. Each grant recipient shall report annually to the  
7 office of the superintendent of public instruction on what  
8 transportation services are being used to assist students in accessing  
9 the program and how those services are being funded. Based on this  
10 information, the office of the superintendent of public instruction  
11 shall compile a list of transportation service options being used and  
12 make that list available to all after-school program providers that  
13 were eligible for the community learning center program grants.

14 (5) To the extent that funding is available for this purpose, the  
15 office of the superintendent of public instruction may provide grants  
16 or other support for the training and professional development of  
17 community learning center staff, the activities of intermediary after-  
18 school organizations, and efforts to increase public awareness of the  
19 availability and benefits of after-school programs.

20 (6) Schools or school districts that receive a community learning  
21 center grant under this section may seek approval from the office of  
22 the superintendent of public instruction for flexibility to use a  
23 portion of their state transportation funds for the costs of  
24 transporting students to and from the community learning center  
25 program.

26 (7) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall  
27 evaluate program outcomes and report to the governor and the education  
28 committees of the legislature on the outcomes of the grants and make  
29 recommendations related to program modification, sustainability, and  
30 possible expansion. An interim report is due November 1, 2008. A  
31 final report is due December 1, 2009.

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