

---

HOUSE BILL 2913

---

State of Washington

61st Legislature

2010 Regular Session

By Representatives Haigh, Priest, Quall, Haler, Kessler, Kagi, Nealey, Finn, Maxwell, Sullivan, and Kenney

Read first time 01/18/10. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to authorizing innovative interdistrict cooperative  
2 high school programs; amending RCW 28A.225.200, 28A.225.200,  
3 28A.545.040, and 28A.545.120; adding new sections to chapter 28A.340  
4 RCW; creating new sections; providing an effective date; and providing  
5 an expiration date.

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

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the availability  
8 of technology, online learning, and field and project-based curricula  
9 offer new opportunities for school districts to design innovative  
10 programs for high school students. However, the legislature also finds  
11 that while small, rural school districts desire to offer innovative  
12 learning options for students in their communities, they are  
13 constrained by state laws and rules that appear to prohibit nonhigh  
14 school districts from creating options for their high school students  
15 in cooperation with other nonhigh school districts. Therefore, the  
16 legislature intends to authorize and encourage innovative, cooperative  
17 high school programs for students from very small school districts.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 2.**    A new section is added to chapter 28A.340  
2    RCW to read as follows:

3        (1) Two or more nonhigh school districts may form an interdistrict  
4    cooperative, to offer an innovation academy cooperative, as defined in  
5    section 3 of this act and subject to the approval of the office of the  
6    superintendent of public instruction under section 4 of this act, for  
7    high school students residing in the participating nonhigh school  
8    districts.

9        (2) Enrollment in an innovation academy cooperative is optional for  
10   students. For students residing in a participating nonhigh school  
11   district who enroll in a high school district rather than the  
12   innovation academy cooperative, the provisions of RCW 28A.540.110 and  
13   chapter 28A.545 RCW apply to the nonhigh school district.

14        (3) State funding allocations for basic education for students  
15   enrolled in an innovation academy cooperative shall be based on the  
16   small high school allocations under the omnibus appropriations act.

17        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 3.**    A new section is added to chapter 28A.340  
18    RCW to read as follows:

19        (1) For the purposes of sections 2 through 4 of this act, an  
20   innovation academy cooperative is a high school program with one or  
21   more of the following characteristics:

22        (a) Interdisciplinary curriculum and instruction organized into  
23   subject-focused themes or academies. Programs are encouraged to  
24   provide an initial focus on academies in science, technology,  
25   engineering, and mathematics;

26        (b) A combination of instructional service delivery models,  
27   including alternative learning experiences, online learning, work-based  
28   learning, experiential and field-based learning, and direct classroom  
29   instruction at multiple and varying locations;

30        (c) Intensive and accelerated learning to enable students to  
31   complete high school credits in a short time period; and

32        (d) Creative scheduling and use of existing school or community  
33   facilities in innovative ways to minimize facility and transportation  
34   costs and maximize access for students who may be geographically  
35   dispersed.

36        (2) Participating nonhigh school districts shall work with local

1 community and technical colleges and four-year institutions of higher  
2 education to expand the learning options available for students in an  
3 innovation academy cooperative.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.340  
5 RCW to read as follows:

6 Nonhigh school districts proposing to enter an interdistrict  
7 agreement to offer an innovation academy cooperative shall submit a  
8 copy of the proposed agreement and operating and instructional plans  
9 for the cooperative to the office of the superintendent of public  
10 instruction for technical review. The purpose of the review is for the  
11 office to provide technical assistance and advice to assure that the  
12 cooperative addresses issues identified under RCW 28A.225.250 and to  
13 assure that the proposed instructional program will offer courses and  
14 learning experiences that enable students to earn high school credit  
15 and complete a high school diploma. The office of the superintendent  
16 of public instruction must approve agreements and plans before an  
17 innovation academy cooperative begins operation.

18 **Sec. 5.** RCW 28A.225.200 and 1990 c 33 s 234 are each amended to  
19 read as follows:

20 (1) A local district may be authorized by the educational service  
21 district superintendent to transport and educate its pupils in other  
22 districts for one year, either by payment of a compensation agreed upon  
23 by such school districts, or under other terms mutually satisfactory to  
24 the districts concerned when this will afford better educational  
25 facilities for the pupils and when a saving may be effected in the cost  
26 of education: PROVIDED, That notwithstanding any other provision of  
27 law, the amount to be paid by the state to the resident school district  
28 for apportionment purposes and otherwise payable pursuant to RCW  
29 28A.150.100, 28A.150.250 through 28A.150.290, 28A.150.350 through  
30 28A.150.410, 28A.160.150 through 28A.160.200, (~~28A.160.220~~)  
31 28A.300.035, 28A.300.170, and 28A.500.010 shall not be greater than the  
32 regular apportionment for each high school student of the receiving  
33 district. Such authorization may be extended for an additional year at  
34 the discretion of the educational service district superintendent.

35 (2) Subsection (1) of this section shall not apply to districts  
36 participating in a cooperative project established under RCW

1 28A.340.030 which exceeds two years in duration or to nonhigh school  
2 districts participating in an interdistrict cooperative under sections  
3 2 through 4 of this act.

4 **Sec. 6.** RCW 28A.225.200 and 2009 c 548 s 706 are each amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 (1) A local district may be authorized by the educational service  
7 district superintendent to transport and educate its pupils in other  
8 districts for one year, either by payment of a compensation agreed upon  
9 by such school districts, or under other terms mutually satisfactory to  
10 the districts concerned when this will afford better educational  
11 facilities for the pupils and when a saving may be effected in the cost  
12 of education. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the amount  
13 to be paid by the state to the resident school district for  
14 apportionment purposes and otherwise payable pursuant to RCW  
15 28A.150.250 through 28A.150.290, 28A.150.350 through 28A.150.410,  
16 28A.160.150 through 28A.160.200, 28A.300.035, and 28A.300.170 shall not  
17 be greater than the regular apportionment for each high school student  
18 of the receiving district. Such authorization may be extended for an  
19 additional year at the discretion of the educational service district  
20 superintendent.

21 (2) Subsection (1) of this section shall not apply to districts  
22 participating in a cooperative project established under RCW  
23 28A.340.030 which exceeds two years in duration or to nonhigh school  
24 districts participating in an interdistrict cooperative under sections  
25 2 through 4 of this act.

26 **Sec. 7.** RCW 28A.545.040 and 1995 c 77 s 25 are each amended to  
27 read as follows:

28 The term "student residing in a nonhigh school district" and its  
29 equivalent as used in RCW 28A.545.030 through 28A.545.110 and  
30 84.52.0531 shall mean any common school age person with or without  
31 disabilities who resides within the boundaries of a nonhigh school  
32 district that does not conduct the particular kindergarten through  
33 grade twelve grade which the person has not yet successfully completed  
34 and is eligible to enroll in, not including students enrolled in an  
35 innovation academy cooperative established under sections 2 through 4  
36 of this act.

1       **Sec. 8.** RCW 28A.545.120 and 2006 c 263 s 325 are each amended to  
2 read as follows:

3       (1) The superintendent of public instruction, with recommendations  
4 from the school facilities citizen advisory panel under RCW  
5 28A.525.025, shall adopt rules governing the establishment in any  
6 existing nonhigh school district of any secondary program or any new  
7 grades in grades nine through twelve. Before any such program or any  
8 new grades are established, the district must obtain prior approval of  
9 the superintendent of public instruction.

10       (2) This section does not apply to innovation academy cooperatives  
11 established under sections 2 through 4 of this act.

12       NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** The office of the superintendent of public  
13 instruction shall review the implementation of sections 2 through 4 of  
14 this act to identify keys to success and any barriers to successful  
15 implementation of innovation academy cooperatives and submit a report  
16 to the education committees of the legislature by January 1, 2013.

17       NEW SECTION. **Sec. 10.** Section 5 of this act expires September 1,  
18 2011.

19       NEW SECTION. **Sec. 11.** Section 6 of this act takes effect  
20 September 1, 2011.

--- END ---