
SECOND SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5176

State of Washington

61st Legislature

2009 Regular Session

By Senate Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Senators Shin, Kastama, McAuliffe, Rockefeller, Jarrett, Pridemore, Hobbs, Delvin, Keiser, Hatfield, Kilmer, Jacobsen, and Roach)

READ FIRST TIME 03/02/09.

1 AN ACT Relating to creating a bi-state partnership for teachers of
2 children with visual impairments; adding a new section to chapter
3 28B.30 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that Washington needs
6 to provide additional resources for the preparation of teachers for
7 children with blindness and visual impairments. The legislature
8 further finds that Portland State University has a nationally
9 recognized program for teachers of children with visual impairments and
10 that a collaborative partnership between Portland State University and
11 Washington State University-Vancouver would help address the critical
12 need for teachers of the blind and visually impaired in Washington.
13 The legislature intends to provide a vision impairments/orientation and
14 mobility coordinator to be housed at Washington State University-
15 Vancouver.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.30 RCW
17 to read as follows:

18 (1) Washington State University shall establish the position of

1 vision impairments/orientation and mobility coordinator, to the extent
2 that state funds are appropriated or that private or federal funds are
3 available for this specific purpose. The coordinator shall be housed
4 at Washington State University-Vancouver, and shall:

5 (a) Recruit Washington students for preparation as teachers for
6 children who are blind or visually impaired;

7 (b) Develop partnerships with school districts with Washington
8 schools that provide services to children who are blind or visually
9 impaired;

10 (c) Supervise enrolled students and coordinate experiences with
11 mentor teachers;

12 (d) Coordinate and instruct in the orientation and mobility summer
13 curriculum as an adjunct faculty;

14 (e) Serve as a liaison between Portland State University and
15 Washington State University-Vancouver; and

16 (f) Seek grants and independent funding sources for the program.

17 (2) Washington State University may solicit, accept, receive, and
18 administer federal funds or private funds, in trust or otherwise, and
19 contract with foundations or with for-profit or nonprofit organizations
20 to support the purposes of this section.

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