

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT
SECOND SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5427

62nd Legislature
2011 Regular Session

Passed by the Senate April 18, 2011
YEAS 36 NAYS 12

President of the Senate

Passed by the House April 11, 2011
YEAS 57 NAYS 39

Speaker of the House of Representatives

Approved

Governor of the State of Washington

CERTIFICATE

I, Thomas Hoemann, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SECOND SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5427** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

Secretary

FILED

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

SECOND SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5427

AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

Passed Legislature - 2011 Regular Session

State of Washington 62nd Legislature 2011 Regular Session

By Senate Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Senator McAuliffe; by request of Superintendent of Public Instruction)

READ FIRST TIME 02/25/11.

1 AN ACT Relating to the assessment of students in state-funded full-
2 day kindergarten classrooms; amending RCW 28A.150.315; adding a new
3 section to chapter 28A.655 RCW; and providing an effective date.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.150.315 and 2010 c 236 s 4 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (1) Beginning with the 2007-08 school year, funding for voluntary
8 all-day kindergarten programs shall be phased-in beginning with schools
9 with the highest poverty levels, defined as those schools with the
10 highest percentages of students qualifying for free and reduced-price
11 lunch support in the prior school year. During the 2011-2013 biennium,
12 funding shall continue to be phased-in each year until full statewide
13 implementation of all-day kindergarten is achieved in the 2017-18
14 school year. Once a school receives funding for the all-day
15 kindergarten program, that school shall remain eligible for funding in
16 subsequent school years regardless of changes in the school's
17 percentage of students eligible for free and reduced-price lunches as
18 long as other program requirements are fulfilled. Additionally,

1 schools receiving all-day kindergarten program support shall agree to
2 the following conditions:

- 3 (a) Provide at least a one thousand-hour instructional program;
- 4 (b) Provide a curriculum that offers a rich, varied set of
5 experiences that assist students in:
 - 6 (i) Developing initial skills in the academic areas of reading,
7 mathematics, and writing;
 - 8 (ii) Developing a variety of communication skills;
 - 9 (iii) Providing experiences in science, social studies, arts,
10 health and physical education, and a world language other than English;
 - 11 (iv) Acquiring large and small motor skills;
 - 12 (v) Acquiring social and emotional skills including successful
13 participation in learning activities as an individual and as part of a
14 group; and
 - 15 (vi) Learning through hands-on experiences;
- 16 (c) Establish learning environments that are developmentally
17 appropriate and promote creativity;
- 18 (d) Demonstrate strong connections and communication with early
19 learning community providers; and
- 20 (e) Participate in kindergarten program readiness activities with
21 early learning providers and parents.

22 (2)(a) In addition to the requirements in subsection (1) of this
23 section and to the extent funds are available, beginning with the 2011-
24 12 school year on a voluntary basis, schools must identify the skills,
25 knowledge, and characteristics of kindergarten students at the
26 beginning of the school year in order to support social-emotional,
27 physical, and cognitive growth and development of individual children;
28 support early learning provider and parent involvement; and inform
29 instruction. Kindergarten teachers shall administer the Washington
30 kindergarten inventory of developing skills, as directed by the
31 superintendent of public instruction in consultation with the
32 department of early learning, and report the results to the
33 superintendent. The superintendent shall share the results with the
34 director of the department of early learning.

35 (b) School districts shall provide an opportunity for parents and
36 guardians to excuse their children from participation in the Washington
37 kindergarten inventory of developing skills.

1 (c) To the extent funds are available, beginning in the 2012-13
2 school year, the Washington kindergarten inventory of developing skills
3 shall be administered at the beginning of the school year to all
4 students enrolled in state-funded full-day kindergarten programs with
5 the exception of students who have been excused from participation by
6 their parents or guardians.

7 (d) Until full implementation of state-funded all-day kindergarten,
8 the superintendent of public instruction, in consultation with the
9 director of the department of early learning, may grant annual,
10 renewable waivers from the requirement of (c) of this subsection to
11 administer the Washington kindergarten inventory of developing skills.
12 A school district seeking a waiver for one or more of its schools must
13 submit an application to the office of the superintendent of public
14 instruction that includes:

15 (i) A description of the kindergarten readiness assessment and
16 transition processes that it proposes to administer instead of the
17 Washington kindergarten inventory of developing skills;

18 (ii) An explanation of why the administration of the Washington
19 kindergarten inventory of developing skills would be unduly burdensome;
20 and

21 (iii) An explanation of how administration of the alternative
22 kindergarten readiness assessment will support social-emotional,
23 physical, and cognitive growth and development of individual children;
24 support early learning provider and parent involvement; and inform
25 instruction.

26 (3) Subject to funds appropriated for this purpose, the
27 superintendent of public instruction shall designate one or more school
28 districts to serve as resources and examples of best practices in
29 designing and operating a high-quality all-day kindergarten program.
30 Designated school districts shall serve as lighthouse programs and
31 provide technical assistance to other school districts in the initial
32 stages of implementing an all-day kindergarten program. Examples of
33 topics addressed by the technical assistance include strategic
34 planning, developing the instructional program and curriculum, working
35 with early learning providers to identify students and communicate with
36 parents, and developing kindergarten program readiness activities.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.655
2 RCW to read as follows:

3 Before implementing the Washington kindergarten inventory of
4 developing skills as provided under RCW 28A.150.315, the superintendent
5 of public instruction and the department of early learning must assure
6 that a fairness and bias review of the assessment process has been
7 conducted, including providing an opportunity for input from the
8 achievement gap oversight and accountability committee under RCW
9 28A.300.136 and from an additional diverse group of community
10 representatives, parents, and educators to be convened by the
11 superintendent and the director of the department.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** Section 1 of this act takes effect September
13 1, 2011.

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