
HOUSE BILL 2554

State of Washington 63rd Legislature 2014 Regular Session

By Representatives Pettigrew, Dahlquist, Springer, Lytton, and Gregerson

Read first time 01/21/14. Referred to Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to expanding the urban school turnaround
2 initiative; creating new sections; and providing an expiration date.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** In 2012 the legislature made a targeted
5 investment of funding and technical assistance in urban schools that
6 are dramatically affected by poverty and the educational opportunity
7 gap. The urban school turnaround initiative began in two selected
8 schools in the state's largest urban school district. Although the
9 initiative is only in its second year, preliminary results based on
10 student achievement on state assessments are promising. Therefore the
11 legislature intends to extend the initiative to additional urban school
12 districts in the state.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) Subject to funds appropriated
14 specifically for this purpose, the office of the superintendent of
15 public instruction shall select up to four schools in two large urban
16 school districts in the state to participate in an urban school
17 turnaround initiative beginning in the 2014-15 school year. One of the
18 school districts shall be located in Eastern Washington and one shall

1 be located in Western Washington. The school districts may not have
2 previously received state funds for an urban school turnaround
3 initiative. The selected schools shall be low-performing schools; be
4 located within the same community in their respective districts and
5 form a continuum of education for the students in that community; have
6 significant educational opportunity gaps; and include a mix of
7 elementary, middle, or high schools.

8 (2) The office shall allocate funds appropriated for the urban
9 school turnaround initiative to the school districts to be used
10 exclusively in the selected schools. The districts may not charge an
11 overhead or indirect fee for the allocated funds or supplant other
12 state, federal, or local funds in the selected schools. Funding
13 allocated under this section is intended to be one time, but school
14 districts may expend the funds over a three-year period.

15 (3) The school districts shall use the funds for intensive
16 supplemental instruction, services, and materials in the selected
17 schools, including but not limited to professional development for
18 school staff; updated curriculum, materials, and technology; extended
19 learning opportunities for students; reduced class size; summer
20 enrichment activities; school-based health clinics; and other research-
21 based initiatives to dramatically turn around the performance and close
22 the opportunity gap in the schools. Priorities for the expenditure of
23 the funds shall be determined by the leadership and staff of each
24 school.

25 (4) The office shall monitor the activities in the selected schools
26 and the expenditure of funds to ensure the intent of this section is
27 met, and submit a report to the legislature by December 1, 2017,
28 including outcomes resulting from the urban school turnaround
29 initiative. The report submitted to the legislature must include a
30 comparison of student learning achievement in the selected schools with
31 schools of comparable demographics that have not participated in the
32 initiative.

33 (5) This section expires July 1, 2018.

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