
HOUSE BILL 1746

State of Washington

67th Legislature

2022 Regular Session

By Representatives Ortiz-Self, Taylor, Davis, Ramel, and Santos

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1 AN ACT Relating to updating the 2015 report and recommendations
2 for supporting student success through measuring and mitigating
3 community risk and protective predictors since the emergence of the
4 COVID-19 pandemic; adding a new section to chapter 28A.630 RCW; and
5 creating a new section.

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

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature acknowledges that it
8 directed Washington State University to conduct a geographic analysis
9 to identify areas where the cumulative effect of family and community
10 risk and protective predictors correlated with academic and
11 behavioral indicators of student success. The resulting report,
12 entitled "No School Alone: How community risks and assets contribute
13 to school and youth success," was published in 2015. The report
14 included recommendations to: (a) Reinvigorate and make targeted
15 empirically supported investments in building local community
16 capacity to support state educational and service investments; (b)
17 invest in expanding public awareness of the scope and consequences of
18 adverse childhood experiences and trauma in communities; (c) sustain
19 efforts to address the impact of poverty on communities and schools;
20 and (d) invest in schools adopting social-emotional practices and
21 responses to the trauma children bring to schools.

1 (2) The legislature finds that educational policies and practices
2 have changed since 2015. For example, legislation enacted in 2017:
3 (a) Prohibits school districts from suspending the provision of
4 educational services to students as a disciplinary action; (b) limits
5 student suspension or expulsion to the length of an academic term and
6 requires a reengagement meeting that includes the student's family;
7 and (c) prohibits long-term suspension or expulsion as a form of
8 discretionary discipline. The same legislation required collection
9 and publication of student data disaggregated by subracial and
10 subethnic categories. In addition, legislation enacted in 2019
11 resulted in the adoption of state social-emotional learning standards
12 and benchmarks for students that were also incorporated into
13 standards for the preparation and licensure of principals, teachers,
14 and paraeducators.

15 (3) The legislature recognizes that the COVID-19 pandemic has
16 negatively impacted learning and well-being for many elementary and
17 secondary students. Standardized test results indicate that
18 preexisting disproportionalities were widened during the COVID-19
19 pandemic. In February 2021, the governor issued an emergency order
20 proclaiming a crisis in the mental and behavioral health of many
21 children and youth.

22 (4) The legislature acknowledges that the COVID-19 pandemic
23 further strained households experiencing food hardships. The July
24 2021 Washington food security survey found that one-third of
25 households with children were food insecure. Not having consistent
26 access to enough food, let alone healthy food, can affect children's
27 physical and mental health, including their attention span and
28 cognitive abilities.

29 (5) Therefore, the legislature intends to direct Washington State
30 University to update its 2015 report and recommendations for
31 supporting student success through measuring and mitigating community
32 risk and protective predictors to determine the effects of policies
33 and practices implemented since 2015 and the impact of the COVID-19
34 pandemic, and to provide recommendations for best practices yet to be
35 implemented in Washington.

36 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.630
37 RCW to read as follows:

38 (1) The education data center, established in RCW 43.41.400,
39 shall contract with the child and family research unit at the

1 Washington State University extension to produce the reports
2 described in this section.

3 (2) By December 1, 2022, a report must be completed that: (a)
4 Summarizes new educational services and related academic and
5 nonacademic supports offered by public schools and accessed by
6 elementary and secondary students and their families since the start
7 of the COVID-19 pandemic; (b) describes where and how social-
8 emotional learning standards and benchmarks are being implemented in
9 public schools; and (c) recommends educational programs, services,
10 and related academic and nonacademic supports that are shown through
11 evidence to increase student educational outcomes, including changes
12 to state laws to make use of best practices more consistent across
13 the state.

14 (3)(a) By December 1, 2023, a report must update the data
15 analysis required by chapter 196, Laws of 2014. As required in 2014,
16 the geographic analysis must be conducted using existing data to
17 identify areas where the cumulative effect of family factors, such as
18 employment, health status, safety, and stability, correlate with
19 academic and behavioral indicators of student success. This report
20 must include maps that illustrate community variation in family
21 factors as they relate to kindergarten through 12th grade and
22 postsecondary education outcomes and keeping all children on track
23 for success. To the extent possible, the school districts highlighted
24 in the earlier report must be highlighted in the new report.

25 (b) At a minimum, the report must include:

26 (i) The prevalence of family and community health, safety, and
27 stability factors relevant to student success;

28 (ii) Resilience factors that are statistically correlated with
29 improved population outcomes even in populations with family, health,
30 safety, and stability challenges;

31 (iii) Correlation of the factors in (b)(ii) of this subsection
32 with community variation in academic, behavior, and graduation
33 outcomes;

34 (iv) Implications for policy targeted at improving kindergarten
35 through 12th grade or postsecondary outcomes;

36 (v) Disaggregation of student data as provided in RCW 28A.300.042
37 (1) and (3).

38 (4) The reports required by this section must be submitted to the
39 appropriate committees of the legislature in accordance with RCW
40 43.01.036.

1 (5) As used in this section, "public schools" has the same
2 meaning as in RCW 28A.150.010.

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