
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1027

State of Washington

54th Legislature

1995 Regular Session

By House Committee on Education (originally sponsored by Representatives Brumsickle, Carlson, Cooke, Ballasiotes, B. Thomas, Chandler, Lisk, Horn, Foreman, Dyer, Sehlin, Silver, Sherstad, Benton, Schoesler, Buck, Johnson, Thompson, Radcliff, Hickel, Backlund, Cairnes, Elliot, Pennington, Mastin, Carrell, Mitchell, K. Schmidt, Chappell, Smith, Honeyford, Blanton, D. Schmidt, Mulliken, McMorris, Clements, Fuhrman, Sheldon, Huff, Mielke, Talcott and McMahan)

Read first time 1/23/95.

1 AN ACT Relating to redirecting resources to the classroom; creating
2 new sections; making an appropriation; providing an effective date; and
3 declaring an emergency.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that in order to
6 improve student learning in Washington's public schools, school
7 districts and the state need to take actions to ensure that the maximum
8 amount of available funding and resources reach the classroom.

9 It is the intent of the legislature to redirect resources to
10 classrooms through the reduction of state-level and school district
11 central office administration by identifying and eliminating
12 unnecessary state and school district administrative expenditures, and
13 by reducing the need for these administrators through the reduction of
14 state-mandated requirements and reporting demands.

15 It is the further intent of the legislature that the savings
16 achieved through the reduction in administrative expenditures be used
17 to increase the financial resources used for teachers, teacher
18 assistants, and other classroom support staff, including salaries and
19 benefits, and for textbooks, supplies, and technology used in the

1 classroom. It is the intent of the legislature to redirect savings in
2 administrative costs to the classroom, not to reduce funding levels for
3 the public schools.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The joint select committee on education
5 restructuring established in RCW 28A.630.950 shall review the current
6 constitutional and statutory roles and responsibilities of the office
7 of the superintendent of public instruction, the state board of
8 education, the work force training and education coordinating board,
9 the commission on student learning, and educational service districts,
10 and by December 15, 1995, develop a recommendation to the legislature
11 for creating a revised state-level education governance system. The
12 new state-level governance system shall: (a) Focus on the improvement
13 of student learning; (b) result in a reduction of state-level
14 administrative expenditures; (c) provide school district staff and
15 parents technical assistance and leadership; (d) result in minimal
16 regulatory oversight; and (e) have clear lines of authority and
17 accountability.

18 (2) The select committee shall continue its review of laws that
19 inhibit, or do not enhance, student learning, including those that
20 place procedural, governance, and paperwork burdens on school districts
21 and schools.

22 (a) Based on its review, the select committee shall identify state
23 statutes that inhibit, or do not enhance student learning, and make
24 recommendations to the legislature by December 15, 1995, regarding
25 which laws should be amended or repealed.

26 (b) After the 1996 legislative session, the select committee, in
27 cooperation with the state board of education, the superintendent of
28 public instruction, and other interested parties, shall identify state
29 rules that inhibit, or do not enhance, student learning. The select
30 committee shall by December 15, 1996, make recommendations to the
31 legislature, the state board of education, and the superintendent of
32 public instruction regarding which rules should be amended or repealed.

33 (3) This section shall expire December 31, 1996.

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) School district boards of directors are
35 strongly encouraged to review school district expenditures, and to take
36 actions that will increase the percentage of district funds that are
37 used to support the classroom. In order to assist school districts in

1 this effort, the school district financial review program is created.
2 The purpose of the program is to provide funding to school districts to
3 conduct financial reviews and to develop strategies that will increase
4 the amount of resources that are used in the classroom.

5 (2) The program shall be administered by the superintendent of
6 public instruction, or a public, nonprofit, or private contractor as
7 designated by the superintendent.

8 (3) The superintendent, or his or her designee, shall establish
9 application and approval requirements for the program. A minimum fifty
10 percent financial match shall be required of school districts.
11 Districts with enrollments larger than five hundred full-time
12 equivalent students that expended less than two-thirds of their total
13 general fund expenditures on teaching and teaching support during the
14 1993-94 fiscal year shall receive priority in the allocation of funds.

15 (4) School districts that receive grants shall submit a report to
16 the superintendent, or his or her designee, by December 31, 1995, of
17 actions that the district has taken, or plans to take, to increase
18 classroom expenditures. The superintendent, or his or her designee,
19 shall summarize the information submitted by the districts and present
20 a summary to the fiscal and education policy committees of the
21 legislature before January 15, 1996. If one or more of the fiscal or
22 policy committees find that adequate progress is not being made in
23 redirecting resources to the classroom, the committee or committees
24 shall recommend to the legislature additional measures that should be
25 taken.

26 (5) The process established in subsections (1) through (4) of this
27 section shall be repeated during calendar year 1997, with the summary
28 in subsection (4) of this section being submitted to the legislature
29 before December 31, 1997.

30 (6) This section shall expire December 31, 1997.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The sum of fifty thousand dollars, or as
32 much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the biennium
33 ending June 30, 1997, from the general fund to the superintendent of
34 public instruction for the purposes of section 3 of this act.

35 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** This act is necessary for the immediate
36 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the

1 state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take
2 effect May 1, 1995.

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