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HOUSE BILL 1988

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State of Washington

54th Legislature

1995 Regular Session

By Representatives Veloria, Mason, Cody, Valle, Dickerson, Chopp and Tokuda

Read first time 02/20/95. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to establishment of a community and school  
2 collaboration program; adding new sections to chapter 28A.630 RCW;  
3 creating a new section; making an appropriation; and providing an  
4 expiration date.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that an escalating  
7 number of students are engaging in violent behavior, are unable to make  
8 successful transitions from school-to-school and school-to-work, and  
9 are dropping out of school. Poor attendance, behavior, and achievement  
10 among students; the lack of community schools and safe havens for  
11 students; the absence of parental involvement; the lack of training and  
12 preparation for students entering the work force; minimal support and  
13 guidance for students when they make transitions between schools; and  
14 the lack of community and family empowerment support all contribute to  
15 the inability of young people to succeed in school and lead productive  
16 lives.

17 (2) The legislature further finds that communities can best  
18 identify the needs of children within that community and develop  
19 strategies to meet those needs. Communities recognize the necessity of

1 collaborating within their communities to develop and implement  
2 solutions that include the active participation by schools, business  
3 leaders, and the community.

4 (3) The legislature further finds communities and schools must work  
5 together to develop and operate a sustained infrastructure that will  
6 address the long-term needs of students and the community. Social  
7 service resources do exist in communities, but there is limited  
8 coordination at the school site to leverage available resources,  
9 develop relations with service agencies, assist with the implementation  
10 of services, and target services and improvement strategies directly to  
11 students.

12 (4) The purpose of this act is to equip students with the  
13 resources, skills, knowledge, and motivation necessary to avoid violent  
14 behavior, to stay in school, and to make successful transitions from  
15 school-to-school and school-to-work through the establishment of  
16 community and school collaboration projects geographically distributed  
17 throughout the state.

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

20 (1) There is established in the office of the superintendent of  
21 public instruction a community and school collaboration program, which  
22 shall fund and coordinate community-based projects to develop  
23 comprehensive community improvement activities at schools to meet the  
24 needs of students. The projects shall integrate the community support  
25 services by placing community and school project coordinators at the  
26 school site; leverage and coordinate community resources in a  
27 nonduplicative, cost-effective, and accountable manner at the school  
28 site; and mobilize public and private resources to support youth and  
29 families.

30 (2) Goals of the projects within the program shall include at a  
31 minimum:

32 (a) Reduction of the school drop-out rate through improved student  
33 attendance, behavior, and educational achievement;

34 (b) Expansion of the use of schools as community centers and safe  
35 havens open outside of normal school hours;

36 (c) Improvement in school-to-school transitions for preschool-aged  
37 students through increased parental involvement and education and

1 collaboration with the head start program and the early childhood  
2 education assistance program;

3 (d) Improvement in school-to-school transitions for high school and  
4 college-aged students identified as at risk of failing to move  
5 successfully into a college or training program; and

6 (e) Increasing successful school-to-work transitions for students  
7 through educationally linked job internships, mentored job shadowing  
8 experiences, and the development of personalized education and career  
9 plans for participating students.

10 (3) Applications for project funding under sections 3 and 4 of this  
11 act shall:

12 (a) Define the community requesting funding;

13 (b) Designate a lead agency or organization responsible for project  
14 management, describe the membership of the community project's board of  
15 advisors or governing entity, and provide evidence of written  
16 interagency agreements with existing youth service organizations to  
17 carry out project activities;

18 (c) Contain a written agreement between a school district and the  
19 identified lead agency to implement a community and school  
20 collaboration project;

21 (d) Document the active participation of public and private  
22 entities in the community, including the various communities of color,  
23 that are currently providing services to school-age children, including  
24 at a minimum, schools, law enforcement, local government, youth  
25 services agencies and organizations, job training organizations, mental  
26 health, and health care providers;

27 (e) Identify the school, schools, or other sites to be used as the  
28 project sites;

29 (f) Describe the services and activities that will be undertaken by  
30 the project, including identification of specific services for which  
31 funding is requested;

32 (g) Describe the coordinated system for meeting the needs of  
33 students that the community will develop, including a description of  
34 how the proposed system will build upon existing services and existing  
35 community efforts to coordinate services for school-aged children;

36 (h) Identify community matching funds, as provided in section 3 of  
37 this act, that have been committed to the project; and

38 (i) Describe the evaluation process, including a system to collect  
39 baseline data, developed to demonstrate the success of the project in

1 achieving performance standards, including, but not limited to, student  
2 attendance, drop-out rates, educational achievement, successful  
3 transition from school to school, employment, college entrance, and  
4 postsecondary achievement.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.630  
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 (1) The superintendent of public instruction shall award grants for  
8 community and school collaboration projects for teens. Grants shall be  
9 made competitively based upon the information provided in the  
10 applications for funding. To the greatest extent practicable, grants  
11 shall be geographically distributed throughout the state.

12 (2) Twenty-five percent of the funding for projects under sections  
13 2 through 4 of this act shall be community matching funds provided by  
14 private or public entities in the communities requesting funding.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.630  
16 RCW to read as follows:

17 Communities and schools collaboration projects shall have an  
18 initial duration of two years. To the extent funding is available,  
19 projects may be renewed for an additional two years.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** This act shall expire June 30, 2001.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** The sum of one million one hundred seventy  
22 thousand dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is  
23 appropriated for the biennium ending June 30, 1997, from the general  
24 fund to the superintendent of public instruction for the purposes of  
25 this act.

26 (1) Of the amount appropriated in this section, seven hundred  
27 seventy thousand dollars is provided solely for operating support for  
28 community and school collaboration projects identified by the  
29 superintendent of public instruction as able to fully implement and  
30 operate a project at a school site or sites. Operating grants to  
31 individual projects shall not exceed twenty-five thousand dollars per  
32 school site targeted for project coordination activities.

33 (2) Of the amount appropriated in this section, three hundred  
34 twenty-five thousand dollars is provided solely for planning,  
35 implementation, and operating support for community and school

1 collaboration projects identified by the superintendent of public  
2 instruction as currently unable to fully implement and operate a  
3 project at a school site. Planning, implementation, and operating  
4 grants to individual projects shall not exceed sixty-five thousand  
5 dollars per school site targeted for project coordination activities.

6 (3) Of the amount appropriated in this section, seventy-five  
7 thousand dollars is provided solely for the superintendent of public  
8 instruction to administer, coordinate, monitor, and evaluate the  
9 community and school collaboration projects.

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