
ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL 2613

State of Washington

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By Representatives Sterk, Crouse, Carrell, Brumsickle, McMahan, Boldt, Honeyford, D. Sommers, Clements, Sherstad, Koster, Fuhrman, Sheahan, Huff, Mulliken and Thompson

Read first time 01/15/96. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to school discipline; and amending RCW 28A.320.140,
2 28A.225.225, 28A.600.030, and 28A.305.160.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.320.140 and 1994 sp.s. c 7 s 612 are each amended
5 to read as follows:

6 (1) School district boards of directors may establish district-wide
7 student dress and grooming codes, which may include a requirement that
8 students wear uniforms.

9 (2) School district boards of directors may establish specific
10 schools or programs ((which)) that parents may choose for their
11 children to attend in which: (a) Students are required to conform to
12 dress and grooming codes, including requiring that students wear
13 uniforms; (b) parents are required to participate in the student's
14 education; or (c) discipline requirements are more stringent than in
15 other schools in the district.

16 ((+2)) (3) School district boards of directors may also establish
17 specific schools or programs in which: (a) Students are required to
18 conform to dress and grooming codes, including requiring that students
19 wear uniforms; (b) parents are regularly counseled and encouraged to

1 participate in the student's education; or (c) discipline requirements
2 are more stringent than in other schools in the district. School
3 boards may require that students who are subject to suspension or
4 expulsion attend these schools or programs as a condition of continued
5 enrollment in the school district.

6 ~~((3))~~ (4) If students are required to wear uniforms ~~((in these
7 programs or schools))~~, school districts shall accommodate students so
8 that the uniform requirement is not an unfair barrier to school
9 attendance and participation.

10 ~~((4) Nothing in this section impairs or reduces in any manner
11 whatsoever the authority of a board under other law to impose a dress
12 and appearance code. However, if a board requires uniforms under such
13 other authority, it shall accommodate students so that the uniform
14 requirement is not an unfair barrier to school attendance and
15 participation.))~~

16 (5) In order to maintain order and discipline in schools during and
17 after a natural disaster, schools may remain closed when natural
18 disasters listed in RCW 28A.150.290(2) (a) and (b) occur as long as
19 such conditions remain. The superintendent of public instruction shall
20 allow school districts to receive state basic education moneys in such
21 cases even though the requirement of a full school year of one hundred
22 eighty days or the annual average total instructional hour offering
23 imposed by RCW 28A.150.220 and 28A.150.260 have not been fulfilled.

24 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.225.225 and 1995 c 52 s 3 are each amended to read
25 as follows:

26 (1) All districts accepting applications from nonresident students
27 or from students receiving home-based instruction for admission to the
28 district's schools shall consider equally all applications received.
29 Each school district shall adopt a policy establishing rational, fair,
30 and equitable standards for acceptance and rejection of applications
31 ~~((by June 30, 1990))~~. The policy may include rejection of nonresident
32 students if acceptance of these students would result in the district
33 experiencing a financial hardship. However, nothing in this section
34 prevents a school district superintendent or his or her designee from
35 denying the application of a nonresident student if the student's
36 disciplinary record indicates a history of behavior that has been
37 disruptive to the educational process.

1 (2) The district shall provide to applicants written notification
2 of the approval or denial of the application in a timely manner. If
3 the application is rejected, the notification shall include the reason
4 or reasons for denial and the right to appeal under RCW 28A.225.230(3).

5 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28A.600.030 and 1990 c 33 s 498 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (1) Each school district board of directors may establish student
8 grading policies which permit teachers to consider a student's
9 attendance in determining the student's overall grade or deciding
10 whether the student should be granted or denied credit. Such policies
11 shall take into consideration the circumstances pertaining to the
12 student's inability to attend school.

13 (2) The state board of education shall not limit the ability of
14 school districts to reduce a student's grade or to deny credit for
15 disciplinary reasons or as a result of disciplinary actions. However,
16 no policy shall be adopted whereby a grade shall be reduced or credit
17 shall be denied for disciplinary reasons or due to disciplinary actions
18 only, rather than for academic reasons, unless due process of law is
19 provided as set forth by the state board of education under RCW
20 28A.305.160.

21 **Sec. 4.** RCW 28A.305.160 and 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 97 s 1 are each
22 amended to read as follows:

23 (1) The state board of education shall adopt and distribute to all
24 school districts lawful and reasonable rules ((and regulations))
25 prescribing the substantive and procedural due process guarantees of
26 pupils in the common schools. Such rules ((and regulations)) shall
27 authorize a school district to use informal due process procedures in
28 connection with the short-term suspension of students to the extent
29 constitutionally permissible. In cases in which suspensions and
30 expulsions are appealed by a student, such rules shall authorize a
31 school district to suspend a student temporarily after an initial
32 hearing until a final decision is reached in further appeals:
33 PROVIDED, That the state board deems the interest of students to be
34 adequately protected.

1 (2) Short-term suspensions may be used for suspensions of up to and
2 including, ten school days.

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