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ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2947
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State of Washington   54th Legislature   1996 Regular Session

By House Committee on Appropriations (originally sponsored by Representatives Beeksma, Quall, Hymes, Sehlin, Honeyford, L. Thomas and Thompson)

Read first time 02/05/96.

1   AN ACT Relating to reimbursement for school buses; amending RCW
2 28A.160.195; and creating a new section.

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

4   **Sec. 1.**   RCW 28A.160.195 and 1995 1st sp.s. c 10 s 1 are each
5 amended to read as follows:
6   (1) The superintendent of public instruction, in consultation with
7 the regional transportation coordinators of the educational service
8 districts, shall establish a minimum number of school bus categories
9 considering the capacity, engine placement, and type of vehicles
10 required by school districts in Washington. The superintendent, in
11 consultation with the regional transportation coordinators of the
12 educational service districts, shall establish competitive
13 specifications for each category of school bus. The categories shall
14 be developed to produce minimum long-range operating costs, including
15 costs of equipment and all costs in operating the vehicles.   The
16 categories, for purposes of comparative studies, will be at a minimum
17 the same as those in the beginning of the 1994-95 school year. The
18 competitive specifications shall meet federal motor vehicle safety
19 standards, minimum state specifications as established by rule by the

1 superintendent, and supported options as determined by the
2 superintendent in consultation with the regional transportation
3 coordinators of the educational service districts.
4   (2) After establishing school bus categories and competitive
5 specifications, the superintendent of public instruction shall solicit
6 competitive price quotes from school bus dealers to be in effect for
7 one year and establish a list of the lowest competitive price quotes
8 obtained under this subsection.
9   (3) The superintendent shall base the level of reimbursement to
10 school districts and educational service districts for school buses on
11 the lowest quote in each category. However, district reimbursements
12 for any new categories established in 1996 shall be for: (a) Buses
13 placed on the reimbursement schedule after January 1, 1996, and before
14 December 31, 1996; and (b) districts documenting reasons for choosing
15 a new category, rather than an existing 1995 category, to the
16 satisfaction of a majority of regional transportation coordinators of
17 the educational service districts and the superintendent of public
18 instruction. If the regional transportation coordinators deny a
19 request for placement of a bus on a new category created in 1996, they
20 shall document the reasons and provide the information to the
21 superintendent of public instruction. New categories shall be
22 developed and be ready for soliciting competitive bids by June 1, 1996.
23   (4) Notwithstanding RCW 28A.335.190, school districts and
24 educational service districts may purchase at the quoted price directly
25 from the dealer who is providing the lowest competitive price quote on
26 the list established under subsection (2) of this section. School
27 districts and educational service districts may make their own
28 selections for school buses, but shall be reimbursed at the rates
29 determined under this section and RCW 28A.160.200. District-selected
30 options shall not be reimbursed by the state.
31   (5) This section does not prohibit school districts or educational
32 service districts from conducting their own competitive bid process.
33   (6) The superintendent of public instruction may adopt rules under
34 chapter 34.05 RCW to implement this section.

35   NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** If specific funding for this act,
36 referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not provided by June

1 30, 1996, in the supplemental omnibus appropriations act, this act
2 shall be null and void.

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