
HOUSE BILL 2983

State of Washington 60th Legislature 2008 Regular Session

By Representatives Haigh, Schual-Berke, Hunt, Sullivan, Lias, Roberts, Chase, and Santos

Read first time 01/18/08. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to expanding the Washington state leadership
2 academy; amending RCW 28A.415.340; and creating a new section.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** In 2007, the legislature recognized the
5 importance of developing school and district leadership through a
6 system of research-based professional development and training. The
7 Washington state leadership academy is focused on the development of
8 principals, superintendents, and other administrators, but is not
9 focused on research and development for the school directors who also
10 oversee and lead school improvement efforts. The legislature intends
11 to expand the Washington state leadership academy to include school
12 directors.

13 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.415.340 and 2007 c 402 s 1 are each amended to
14 read as follows:

15 (1) Research supports the value of quality school and school
16 district leadership. Effective leadership is critical to improving
17 student learning and transforming underperforming schools and school
18 districts into world-class learning centers.

1 (2) A public-private partnership is established to develop, pilot,
2 and implement the Washington state leadership academy to focus on the
3 development and enhancement of personal leadership characteristics and
4 the teaching of effective practices and skills demonstrated by school
5 and district administrators and school directors who are successful
6 managers and instructional leaders. It is the goal of the academy to
7 provide state-of-the-art programs and services across the state.

8 (3) Academy partners include the state superintendent and principal
9 professional associations, state school directors' association, private
10 nonprofit foundations, institutions of higher education with approved
11 educator preparation programs, the professional educator standards
12 board, the office of the superintendent of public instruction,
13 educational service districts, the state school business officers'
14 association, and other entities identified by the partners. The
15 partners shall designate an independent organization to act as the
16 fiscal agent for the academy and shall establish a board of directors
17 to oversee and direct the academy's finances, services, and programs.
18 The academy shall be supported by a national research institution with
19 demonstrated expertise in educational leadership.

20 (4) Initial development of academy course content and activities
21 shall be supported by private funds. Initial tasks of the academy are
22 to:

23 (a) Finalize a comprehensive design of the academy and the
24 development of the curriculum frameworks for a comprehensive leadership
25 development program that includes coursework, practicum, mentoring, and
26 evaluation components;

27 (b) Develop curriculum for individual leadership topics, including
28 topics appropriate for school director leadership;

29 (c) Pilot the curriculum and all program components; and

30 (d) Modify the comprehensive design, curriculum coursework,
31 practicum, and mentoring programs based on the research results gained
32 from pilot activities.

33 (5) The board of directors shall report semiannually to the
34 superintendent of public instruction on the financial contributions
35 provided by foundations and other organizations to support the work of
36 the academy. The board of directors shall report by December 31st each
37 year to the superintendent of public instruction on the programs and

1 services provided, numbers of participants in the various academy
2 activities, evaluation activities regarding program and participant
3 outcomes, and plans for the academy's future development.

4 (6) The board of directors shall make recommendations for changes
5 in superintendent and principal preparation programs, the administrator
6 licensure system, and continuing education requirements.

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