
SENATE BILL 6375

State of Washington

62nd Legislature

2012 Regular Session

By Senators Kilmer, Tom, Harper, Hatfield, Brown, Frockt, and McAuliffe

Read first time 01/19/12. Referred to Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to creation of the math performance incentive
2 program; adding new sections to chapter 28A.300 RCW; and creating a new
3 section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that approximately
6 fifty percent of students within three years of graduating from high
7 school are in need of remedial education when they enter institutions
8 of higher education and more than twenty million dollars in state funds
9 is spent each year to provide this remediation. The legislature
10 further finds that the greatest need for remediation occurs in
11 mathematics with just over half of these students requiring remediation
12 in this subject area.

13 In 2007, the state board for community and technical colleges
14 established a student achievement initiative to implement systemic
15 changes in practice by providing incentives through financial rewards
16 to colleges for increasing the levels of achievement attained by their
17 students. The student achievement initiative measures improvements in
18 building towards college-level skills; first-year retention; completing
19 college-level mathematics; and program completion. The legislature

1 finds that the student achievement initiative has proven to be
2 successful in improving college student outcomes. Therefore, the
3 legislature intends to implement a similar program within secondary
4 education that includes performance indicators specifically designed to
5 measure improvement beyond what is minimally required to graduate from
6 high school. The legislature further intends for this program to
7 improve outcomes in mathematics that result in a reduced need for
8 postsecondary remedial mathematics education and more students entering
9 careers and institutions of higher education ready to succeed.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.300
11 RCW to read as follows:

12 (1) By August 31, 2012, the superintendent of public instruction
13 shall, with assistance from the state board for community and technical
14 colleges and the institutions of higher education as defined in RCW
15 28B.10.016, create a math performance incentive program to reward
16 school districts that demonstrate improvement in student performance in
17 mathematics. The purpose of the math performance incentive program is
18 to reduce the need for postsecondary remedial education and its
19 associated costs by improving student mathematics performance in
20 secondary education.

21 (2) The math performance incentive program must include a scoring
22 system applied to performance indicators to be used to measure school
23 district improvement in student performance in mathematics from the
24 previous academic year with the intent of reducing the need for
25 postsecondary remedial education. Performance indicators must be
26 developed to measure student performance beyond what is minimally
27 required to successfully graduate from high school and must include,
28 but not be limited to:

29 (a) The percentage of students successfully completing algebra or
30 its equivalent with a C plus average grade or higher in or before the
31 ninth grade;

32 (b) The percentage of students successfully completing geometry
33 with a C plus average grade or higher in or before the tenth grade;

34 (c) The percentage of students far exceeding the standard on the
35 state of Washington's algebra end-of-course assessment;

36 (d) The percentage of students far exceeding the standard on the
37 state of Washington's geometry end-of-course assessment;

1 (e) The percentage of students scoring a three or higher on an AP
2 mathematics examination;

3 (f) The percentage of students scoring a five or higher on an
4 international baccalaureate mathematics examination;

5 (g) The percentage of students successfully completing algebra 2 or
6 its equivalent with a C plus average grade or higher;

7 (h) The percentage of students successfully completing one credit
8 of mathematics in the academic year of graduation from high school that
9 exceeds geometry with a C plus average grade or higher; and

10 (i) The percentage of students successfully completing a higher
11 level mathematics course above algebra 2 or its equivalent.

12 (3) The superintendent of public instruction shall submit a report
13 of the completed design of the math performance incentive program to
14 the quality education council created in chapter 28A.290 RCW and the
15 appropriate policy and fiscal committees of the legislature no later
16 than August 31, 2012.

17 (4) The superintendent of public instruction shall collect the
18 appropriate baseline data for the 2011-12 academic year from the school
19 districts no later than January 31, 2013.

20 (5) School districts must report performance data annually to the
21 superintendent of public instruction using existing reporting systems
22 and processes whenever feasible.

23 (6) The superintendent of public instruction shall regularly inform
24 school districts of their improvements using the scoring system
25 established in subsection (2) of this section and shall post these
26 results on the Washington state report card administered by the office
27 of the superintendent of public instruction.

28 (7) The superintendent of public instruction shall meet annually
29 with the appropriate education partners to review the performance
30 indicators to determine if changes are necessary.

31 (8) In the 2016-17 academic year, the Washington state institute
32 for public policy must, with assistance from the education data center
33 created in RCW 43.41.400, the state board for community and technical
34 colleges, and the institutions of higher education as defined in RCW
35 28B.10.016, review data collected to determine if the math performance
36 incentive program has produced an improvement in student mathematics
37 performance in secondary and postsecondary education and training,
38 including a reduction in the percentage of students who are within

1 three years of high school graduation and enroll in postsecondary
2 remedial mathematics education. Based on the results of this review,
3 the Washington state institute for public policy must submit a report
4 of the outcomes of the math performance incentive program to the
5 superintendent of public instruction and the appropriate policy and
6 fiscal committees of the legislature no later than August 31, 2017,
7 along with any recommendations, including whether the program should be
8 expanded to encompass other subject areas or should terminate June 30,
9 2018.

10 (9) The superintendent of public instruction may adopt rules to
11 implement the math performance incentive program.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.300
13 RCW to read as follows:

14 (1) Subject to the availability of funds appropriated for the math
15 performance incentive program created in section 2 of this act, each
16 fiscal year beginning July 1, 2013, the superintendent of public
17 instruction shall provide monetary awards to school districts that have
18 demonstrated improvement in student performance in mathematics
19 according to the scoring system established in section 2 of this act.
20 School districts must use this funding to implement new and innovative
21 courses in their schools to improve and expand mathematical learning
22 opportunities for students, including access to high-level mathematics,
23 that match student career goals and needs. The minimum award provided
24 to a school within a district must be no less than five thousand
25 dollars. If the total funds appropriated to the superintendent of
26 public instruction for the math performance incentive program are
27 insufficient to provide an award to all school districts that
28 demonstrate improvement in student performance in mathematics according
29 to the scoring system established in section 2 of this act, the
30 superintendent of public instruction shall prioritize the distribution
31 of funding so that the school districts that demonstrate the largest
32 improvements receive an award.

33 (2) Funding under this section shall not become part of the state's
34 basic program of education obligation as set forth under Article IX of
35 the state Constitution.

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