
SECOND SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6163

State of Washington

63rd Legislature

2014 Regular Session

By Senate Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Senators Billig, Litzow, Frockt, Dammeier, McAuliffe, Rolfes, King, Tom, Kohl-Welles, and Keiser)

READ FIRST TIME 02/11/14.

1 AN ACT Relating to expanded learning opportunities; adding a new
2 chapter to Title 28A RCW; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that studies have
5 documented that many students experience learning losses when they do
6 not engage in educational activities during the summer. The
7 legislature further finds that research shows that summer learning loss
8 contributes to the educational opportunity gaps between students in
9 Washington's schools and that falling behind in academics can be a
10 predictor of whether a student will drop out of school. The
11 legislature recognizes that such academic regression has a
12 disproportionate impact on low-income students. The legislature
13 acknowledges that access to quality expanded learning opportunities
14 during the school year and summer helps mitigate summer learning loss
15 and improves academic performance, attendance, on-time grade
16 advancement, and classroom behaviors.

17 (2) The legislature intends to increase expanded learning
18 opportunities by identifying ten schools to participate in a pilot
19 program to combat summer learning loss and provide an opportunity to

1 evaluate the effectiveness of an extended school year to improve
2 student achievement, close the educational opportunity gap, and provide
3 successful models for other districts to follow. The pilot schools may
4 participate with a community-based organization to provide the expanded
5 learning opportunities. The legislature further intends to build
6 capacity, identify best practices, leverage local resources, and
7 promote a sustainable expanded learning opportunities system for
8 students in early elementary through secondary schools by providing an
9 ongoing work group and infrastructure that helps coordinate expanded
10 learning opportunity efforts throughout the state.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** As used in this chapter, "expanded learning
12 opportunities" means:

13 (1) Culturally responsive enrichment and learning activities, which
14 may focus on academic and nonacademic areas; arts; civic engagement;
15 service-learning and science; technology, engineering, and mathematics;
16 and competencies for college and career readiness;

17 (2) School-based programs that provide extended learning and
18 enriching experiences for students beyond the traditional school day,
19 week, or calendar; and

20 (3) Structured, intentional, and creative learning environments
21 outside the traditional school day that build partnerships with
22 schools, align in-school and out-of-school learning, and create
23 enriching experiences for youth using activities that complement
24 classroom-based instruction. The opportunities may be provided before
25 or after school, during the summer, or as extended day, week, or year
26 programs.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) The expanded learning opportunities
28 council is established to advise the governor, state legislature, and
29 the superintendent of public instruction regarding an expanded learning
30 opportunities system with particular attention paid to solutions to
31 summer learning loss.

32 (2) The council shall also provide a vision, guidance, assistance,
33 and advice related to potential improvement and expansion of summer
34 learning opportunities, school-year calendar modifications that will
35 help reduce summer learning loss, and support of an expanded learning
36 opportunities system, as well as other current or proposed programs and

1 initiatives across the spectrum of early elementary through secondary
2 education so that the needs and demands for a statewide coordinated
3 system of expanded learning opportunities are identified and an
4 expanded learning opportunities system is developed.

5 (3) The council shall identify fiscal, resource, and partnership
6 opportunities, coordinate policy development, set quality standards,
7 and develop a comprehensive expanded learning opportunities action plan
8 designed to implement expanded learning opportunities, address summer
9 learning loss, provide academic supports, build strong school-
10 community-based organization partnerships, and track performance of
11 expanded learning opportunities in closing the opportunity gap, so that
12 students receive maximum and direct benefit.

13 (4) When making recommendations regarding best practices, the
14 council shall consider the best practices on the state menus developed
15 in accordance with RCW 28A.165.035 and 28A.655.235.

16 (5) The governor's office, in consultation with the superintendent
17 of public instruction, shall convene the expanded learning
18 opportunities council. The members of the council must have experience
19 in expanded learning opportunities, and include groups and agencies
20 representing diverse student interests and geographical locations
21 across the state. Up to fifteen participants, agencies, organizations,
22 or individuals may be invited to participate in the expanded learning
23 opportunities council but the membership shall include the following:

24 (a) Three representatives from nonprofit community-based
25 organizations;

26 (b) One representative from regional work force development
27 councils;

28 (c) One representative from each of the following organizations or
29 agencies:

30 (i) The Washington state school directors' association;

31 (ii) The state-level association of school administrators;

32 (iii) The state-level association of school principals;

33 (iv) The state board of education;

34 (v) The statewide association representing certificated classroom
35 teachers and educational staff associates;

36 (vi) The office of the superintendent of public instruction;

37 (vii) The state-level parent-teacher association;

38 (viii) Higher education; and

1 (ix) A nonprofit organization with statewide experience in expanded
2 learning opportunities frameworks.

3 (6) Staff support for the expanded learning opportunity council
4 shall be provided by the superintendent of public instruction and other
5 state agencies as necessary. Appointees of the council shall be
6 selected by May 30, 2014. The council shall hold its first meeting
7 before August 1, 2014. At the first meeting, the council shall
8 determine regularly scheduled meeting times and locations. The council
9 shall provide a report to the governor and the legislature by December
10 1, 2014, and by December 1st annually thereafter.

11 (7) The first report submitted by December 1, 2014, shall include
12 recommendations for a framework and action plan for a pilot program,
13 including identification of ten potential pilot schools, for the
14 legislature to consider implementing in the 2015-2017 biennium. The
15 pilot program shall provide state funding for three years for twenty
16 additional student learning days for up to ten schools. The intent of
17 the pilot program is to combat summer learning loss; provide an
18 opportunity to evaluate the effectiveness of additional time outside
19 the regular school calendar to improve student achievement and close
20 educational opportunity gaps; and provide successful models for other
21 districts to follow. An eligible school is one that includes at least
22 any two grade levels within kindergarten through grade five, and where
23 seventy-five percent or more of the students qualify for the free and
24 reduced-price lunch program. School districts must solicit input on
25 the design of the plan from staff at the school, parents, and the
26 community, including at an open meeting, and may subsequently adopt a
27 plan for the additional twenty days at a public hearing. The pilot
28 schools may participate with a community-based organization to provide
29 the expanded learning opportunities. The pilot program must include an
30 evaluation of the effectiveness of the program, an examination of
31 student academic progress, and a recommendation of whether twenty days
32 is the optimal number of days to be provided as additional support.

33 (8) The council shall encourage any school district, including one
34 identified in subsection (7) of this section, to implement a pilot
35 program such as the one described in subsection (7) of this section on
36 a faster timeline using local or grant funds.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** Sections 1 through 3 of this act constitute
2 a new chapter in Title 28A RCW.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** This act is necessary for the immediate
4 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
5 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
6 immediately.

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