
HOUSE BILL 2476

State of Washington

64th Legislature

2016 Regular Session

By Representatives Johnson, Santos, Magendanz, Chandler, S. Hunt, DeBolt, Blake, McCabe, Reykdal, Tharinger, Dent, Hawkins, Rossetti, Muri, Haler, and Hargrove

Read first time 01/13/16. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to waivers from the one hundred eighty-day school
2 year requirement; and amending RCW 28A.305.141.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.305.141 and 2014 c 171 s 1 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) In addition to waivers authorized under RCW 28A.305.140 and
7 28A.655.180, the state board of education may grant waivers from the
8 requirement for a one hundred eighty-day school year under RCW
9 28A.150.220 to school districts that propose to operate one or more
10 schools on a flexible calendar for purposes of economy and efficiency
11 as provided in this section. The requirement under RCW 28A.150.220
12 that school districts offer minimum instructional hours (~~shall~~) may
13 not be waived.

14 (2) A school district seeking a waiver under this section must
15 submit an application that includes:

16 (a) A proposed calendar for the school day and school year that
17 demonstrates how the instructional hour requirement will be
18 maintained;

19 (b) An explanation and estimate of the economies and efficiencies
20 to be gained from compressing the instructional hours into fewer than
21 one hundred eighty days;

1 (c) An explanation of how monetary savings from the proposal will
2 be redirected to support student learning;

3 (d) A summary of comments received at one or more public hearings
4 on the proposal and how concerns will be addressed;

5 (e) An explanation of the impact on students who rely upon free
6 and reduced-price school child nutrition services and the impact on
7 the ability of the child nutrition program to operate an economically
8 independent program;

9 (f) An explanation of the impact on employees in education
10 support positions and the ability to recruit and retain employees in
11 education support positions;

12 (g) An explanation of the impact on students whose parents work
13 during the missed school day; and

14 (h) Other information that the state board of education may
15 request to assure that the proposed flexible calendar will not
16 adversely affect student learning.

17 (3) The state board of education shall adopt criteria to evaluate
18 waiver requests under this section. (~~No more than five districts may~~
19 ~~be granted waivers. Waivers~~) A waiver may be (~~granted~~) effective
20 for up to three years and may be renewed for subsequent periods of
21 three or fewer years. After each school year in which a waiver has
22 been granted under this section, the state board of education
23 (~~shall~~) must analyze empirical evidence to determine whether the
24 reduction is affecting student learning. If the state board of
25 education determines that student learning is adversely affected, the
26 school district (~~shall~~) must discontinue the flexible calendar as
27 soon as possible but not later than the beginning of the next school
28 year after the determination has been made. (~~All waivers expire~~
29 ~~August 31, 2017.~~

30 (~~a) Two of the five waivers granted under this subsection shall~~
31 ~~be granted to school~~)

32 (4) The state board of education may grant waivers authorized
33 under this section to five or fewer school districts. Of the five
34 waivers that may be granted, two must be reserved for districts with
35 student populations of less than one hundred fifty students(-

36 (~~b) Three of the five waivers granted under this subsection shall~~
37 ~~be granted to school~~), and three must be reserved for districts with
38 student populations of between one hundred fifty-one and five hundred
39 students.

1 (~~(4) This section expires August 31, 2017.~~)

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