

2SHB 1692 - H AMD 847

By Representative Cheney

WITHDRAWN 02/08/2024

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that people
4 participating in their government is an essential part of developing
5 public policy. Familiarizing students with their representative
6 government's policy development process increases social
7 responsibility and civic awareness that will benefit them now as
8 students and later as adults while improving our state. The
9 legislature further finds that policymakers can benefit from the
10 input of students presently in our kindergarten through grade 12
11 school system and those attending a community or technical college,
12 sharing insights and ideas on education and other issues affecting
13 youth in our state. Therefore, the legislature intends to establish
14 student councils, including 49 legislative district student councils
15 each representing one legislative district to ensure proportional and
16 geographical representation, to allow students to learn about and
17 participate in our representative democracy and share policy ideas
18 with their state elected officials.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) A legislative district student council
20 is established in each legislative district to examine issues
21 important to youth. Legislative district student councils are
22 informal nonpartisan advisory bodies which may examine issues
23 affecting youth and education and make recommendations to legislators
24 on those issues. Each chair of a legislative district student
25 council, selected pursuant to this section, shall coordinate with the
26 legislators from the legislative district which the student member
27 represents to stand up and maintain their district's student council.
28 Each legislative district student council is facilitated by the
29 legislative office or offices of legislators who elect to assist in
30 facilitating the program. Participation in this process is
31 discretionary for each legislator.

1 (2) Consistent with the provisions of this act, the legislative
2 youth advisory council, in consultation with the student
3 representative network created in section 3 of this act, shall
4 develop:

5 (a) Processes and procedures that may be used to set up
6 legislative district student councils;

7 (b) An application and selection process that may be used to
8 select student members to serve on the council, including for the
9 position of chair for each legislative district student council;

10 (c) A model process, program, and duties for legislative district
11 student councils, which must include mechanisms for administration,
12 supervision, and facilitation support to the legislative district
13 student councils; and

14 (d) Model practices enabling qualifying schools to conduct
15 legislative district student council meetings as extracurricular
16 activities.

17 (3) Each legislative district student council is composed of no
18 more than 11 student members as follows:

19 (a) One chair, selected for each legislative district student
20 council by the legislative youth advisory council, established under
21 RCW 43.15.095. The legislative youth advisory council shall select
22 the initial chairs no later than October 1, 2024, with the selection
23 of the subsequent chairs being on June 1, 2026, and each June 1st
24 every two years thereafter.

25 (b) To the extent possible, the Washington state school
26 directors' association shall select up to five student board
27 representatives from each legislative district who attend a public
28 school that serves students in any of grades nine through 12 and are
29 members of the Washington state school directors' association's
30 student representatives network to receive automatic membership to
31 that district's legislative district student council.

32 (c)(i) At least five additional members must be selected who are
33 under the age of 21 at the start of their term and attend either a
34 qualifying school that serves students in any of grades nine through
35 12 or a community or technical college, which is located within that
36 student council's legislative district.

37 (ii) Factors to consider for selection of the members described
38 in this subsection (3)(c) include:

39 (A) Balancing representation among the various grades, with at
40 least one student being in grade 11 and one being in grade 12; and

1 (B) Demonstrated a commitment to civic education through current
2 participation in another local youth council.

3 (iii)(A) For the selection of initial members described in this
4 subsection (3)(c) for new legislative district student councils, the
5 legislative youth advisory council shall form a committee consisting
6 of the chairs of each legislative district student council for the
7 purpose of selecting members for each legislative district student
8 council from the applications submitted. Initial members must be
9 selected by January 15, 2025.

10 (B) Subsequent selection of members described in this subsection
11 (3)(c) shall be the responsibility of each legislative district
12 student council and must occur no later than January 15, 2027, and on
13 January 15th every two years thereafter.

14 (4) To the closest extent feasible, the members of each
15 legislative district student council must attend either a qualifying
16 school that serves students in any of grades nine through 12 or a
17 community or technical college, that is in their council's
18 legislative district. If there are no applicants from a legislative
19 district, qualifying students who attend a qualifying school that
20 serves students in any of grades nine through 12 or a community or
21 technical college located in an adjacent legislative district may be
22 selected for membership.

23 (5) Membership terms are as follows:

24 (a) Of the chairs initially selected, each chair shall serve two-
25 year terms except that students who are in grade 12 shall serve a
26 one-year term but may serve the full two-year term if they attend a
27 community or technical college within the student council's
28 legislative district in the following year. The term of each
29 subsequent chair shall be two years, but qualifying chairs may be
30 selected for subsequent two-year terms.

31 (b) Of the members initially selected to serve on a legislative
32 district student council, each member shall serve a two-year term,
33 except that students who are in grade 12 shall serve a one-year term
34 but may serve the full two-year term if they attend a community or
35 technical college within the student council's legislative district
36 in the following year. The term of each subsequent eligible member
37 shall be two years, but members may be selected for subsequent two-
38 year terms.

1 (c) In the case of a vacancy, the selection of a student member
2 to fill the remainder of an unexpired term must be conducted in the
3 same manner as the original appointment.

4 (6) Each student council may not conduct more than four in-person
5 meetings, with one of the in-person meetings occurring in person in
6 Olympia on the day of youth civic education organized by the
7 legislative youth advisory council, in collaboration with the student
8 representative network, pursuant to RCW 43.15.095(5)(g). Each student
9 council must attend the day of youth civic education in Olympia.

10 (7) The legislature, any agency of the legislature, and any
11 official or employee of such office or agency are immune from
12 liability for any injury that is incurred by or caused by a member of
13 the legislative district student council and that occurs while the
14 member of the council is performing duties of the council. The
15 immunity provided by this subsection does not apply to an injury
16 intentionally caused by the act or omission of an employee or
17 official of the office of the legislature or any agency of the
18 legislature.

19 (8) As used in this section:

20 (a) "Qualifying school" means a public school as defined in RCW
21 28A.150.010, a private school approved under chapter 28A.195 RCW, or
22 home-based instruction as defined in RCW 28A.225.010.

23 (b) "Student board representative" has the same definition as in
24 section 3 of this act.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.345
26 RCW to read as follows:

27 (1) The Washington state school directors' association shall form
28 a student representative network to examine issues important to youth
29 and engage student school board representatives in the legislative
30 process.

31 (2) Subject to the supervision of the Washington state school
32 directors' association, the duties of the student representative
33 network are as follows:

34 (a) Advise the legislature through feedback and testimony on
35 proposed and pending legislation, including policy matters relating
36 to youth;

37 (b) Advise the standing committees of the legislature and study
38 commissions, committees, and task forces through feedback and
39 testimony on issues relating to youth;

1 (c) Collaborate with the legislative youth advisory council
2 established under RCW 43.15.095 to organize an in-person annual day
3 of youth civic education in Olympia;

4 (d) Develop and assemble resources for new and existing student
5 board representatives;

6 (e) Provide writing, photos, and other content for the Washington
7 state school directors' association publications in consultation with
8 Washington state school directors' association staff;

9 (f) Collaborate with the Washington state school directors'
10 association standing committees, advisory committees, task forces,
11 and caucuses as invited; and

12 (g) Provide additional student voices at Washington state school
13 directors' association events in consultation with Washington state
14 school directors' association staff.

15 (3) When acting on behalf of the student representative network,
16 advocacy position and policy recommendations from network members
17 shall be in accordance with the Washington state school directors'
18 association's approved permanent and legislative positions. When
19 acting on behalf of individual school districts, legislative district
20 student councils, or the legislative youth advisory council
21 established under RCW 43.15.095, advocacy positions and policy
22 recommendations made by network members are considered independent
23 from the Washington state school directors' association.

24 (4) In supporting the student representative network, the
25 Washington state school directors' association shall provide network
26 members the ability to learn about education policy issues and
27 determine best practices for establishing and supporting student
28 councils. Additionally, the Washington state school directors'
29 association shall facilitate a connection between network members and
30 the legislators in their legislative district.

31 (5) All student board representatives are automatically members
32 of the student representative network. The Washington state school
33 directors' association shall engage in outreach annually to each
34 school district to provide information about the student
35 representative network. To the greatest extent feasible, the
36 Washington state school directors' association shall identify at
37 least one student board representative from each legislative district
38 to participate in the student representative network. In legislative
39 districts where there are no established student board
40 representatives, the Washington state school directors' association

1 shall communicate with school districts to create awareness of and
2 share best practices about the role and encourage participation.

3 (6) The Washington state school directors' association shall
4 invite elected officials of the Washington legislature to participate
5 in the student representative network in an advisory capacity.

6 (7) The student representative network shall meet at least four
7 times per year, with one annual meeting occurring in person in
8 Olympia on a day established as a day of youth civic education. The
9 number of in-person meetings may not exceed four.

10 (8) The Washington state school directors' association, the
11 legislature, any agency of the legislature, and any official or
12 employee of such office or agency are immune from liability for any
13 injury that is incurred by or caused by a member of the student
14 representative network and that occurs while the member of the
15 network is performing duties of the network or is otherwise engaged
16 in activities or receiving services for which reimbursement is
17 allowed under subsection (7) of this section. The immunity provided
18 by this subsection does not apply to an injury intentionally caused
19 by the act or omission of an employee or official of the Washington
20 state school directors' association, the legislature, or any agency
21 of the legislature.

22 (9) In compliance with RCW 43.01.036, the student representative
23 network, in consultation and with the support of Washington state
24 school directors' association staff, shall report on December 1st of
25 each year to the appropriate committees of the legislature on the
26 number of student board representatives in Washington and the
27 activities of the network.

28 (10) As used in this section, "student board representative"
29 means a student who is recognized by their local school board as a
30 representative of the student body serving on that board.

31 **Sec. 4.** RCW 43.15.095 and 2022 c 96 s 6 are each amended to read
32 as follows:

33 (1) The legislative youth advisory council is established to
34 examine issues of importance to youth, including but not limited to
35 education, employment, strategies to increase youth participation in
36 state and municipal government, safe environments for youth,
37 substance abuse, emotional and physical health, foster care, poverty,
38 homelessness, and youth access to services on a statewide and
39 municipal basis.

1 (2) The council consists of at least (~~twenty-two~~) 22 members as
2 provided in this subsection who, at the time of appointment, are
3 (~~aged fourteen to eighteen~~) age 14 to 18. The council shall select
4 a chair from among its members.

5 (3) Members shall serve two-year terms and, if eligible, may be
6 reappointed for subsequent two-year terms.

7 (4) (a) Students may apply annually to be considered for
8 participation in the program by completing an online application form
9 and submitting the application to the legislative youth advisory
10 council. The council may develop selection criteria and an
11 application review process. The council shall recommend candidates
12 whose names will be submitted to the office of the lieutenant
13 governor for final selection. The office of the lieutenant governor
14 shall notify all applicants of the final selections.

15 (b) The office of the lieutenant governor shall make the
16 application available on the lieutenant governor's website.

17 (5) Subject to the supervision of the office of the lieutenant
18 governor, the council shall have the following duties:

19 (a) Advising the legislature on proposed and pending legislation,
20 including state budget expenditures and policy matters relating to
21 youth;

22 (b) Advising the standing committees of the legislature and study
23 commissions, committees, and task forces regarding issues relating to
24 youth;

25 (c) Conducting periodic seminars for its members regarding
26 leadership, government, and the legislature;

27 (d) Accepting and soliciting for grants and donations from public
28 and private sources to support the activities of the council; (~~and~~)

29 (e) In consultation with the student representative network
30 created in section 3 of this act, developing processes and procedures
31 pertaining to legislative district student councils, in accordance
32 with section 2(2) of this act;

33 (f) Selecting a chair for each legislative district student
34 council, pursuant to section 2 of this act;

35 (g) In coordination with the student representative network,
36 organizing an in-person annual day of youth civic education in
37 Olympia; and

38 (h) Reporting annually by December 1st to the legislature on its
39 activities, including proposed legislation that implements
40 recommendations of the council.

1 (6) In carrying out its duties under this section, the council
2 must meet at least three times per year. The council is encouraged to
3 use technology, such as remote videoconferencing technology, to
4 facilitate members' participation in meetings. The council is
5 encouraged to invite local state legislators to participate in the
6 meetings. The council is encouraged to poll other students in order
7 to get a broad perspective on various policy issues. The council is
8 encouraged to use technology to conduct polling.

9 (7) Members may be reimbursed as provided in RCW 43.03.050 and
10 43.03.060.

11 (8) The office of the lieutenant governor shall provide
12 administration, supervision, and facilitation support to the council.
13 In facilitating the program, the office of the lieutenant governor
14 may collaborate with the Washington state leadership board
15 established in RCW 43.388.010. The senate and house of
16 representatives may provide policy and fiscal briefings and
17 assistance with drafting proposed legislation. The senate and the
18 house of representatives shall each develop internal policies
19 relating to staff assistance provided to the council. Such policies
20 may include applicable internal personnel and practices guidelines,
21 resource use and expense reimbursement guidelines, and applicable
22 ethics mandates. Provision of funds, resources, and staff, as well as
23 the assignment and direction of staff, remains at all times within
24 the sole discretion of the chamber making the provision.

25 (9) The office of the lieutenant governor, the legislature, any
26 agency of the legislature, and any official or employee of such
27 office or agency are immune from liability for any injury that is
28 incurred by or caused by a member of the legislative youth advisory
29 council and that occurs while the member of the council is performing
30 duties of the council or is otherwise engaged in activities or
31 receiving services for which reimbursement is allowed under
32 subsection (7) of this section. The immunity provided by this
33 subsection does not apply to an injury intentionally caused by the
34 act or omission of an employee or official of the office of the
35 lieutenant governor, the legislature, or any agency of the
36 legislature.

37 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Section 2 of this act constitutes a new
38 chapter in Title 44 RCW."

1 Correct the title.

EFFECT: Transfers various tasks related to the Legislative District Student Councils from the Washington State School Directors' Association (WSSDA) to the Legislative Youth Advisory Council (LYAC), including developing an application and selection process for members and selecting Council members. Removes provisions requiring WSSDA and the Lieutenant Governor's office to comply with the state pro-equity anti-racism plan and playbook adopted by the Office of Equity. Removes provisions requiring WSSDA to develop model practices regarding increasing student engagement and to promote participation in LYAC and the Councils. Removes provisions requiring WSSDA to submit a report to the legislature regarding the Councils. Modifies deadlines and membership requirements for selecting Council chairs and members. Removes provisions creating the Youth Civic Engagement Caucus.

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