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HOUSE BILL 2359

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State of Washington

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By Representatives Dorn, Neher, Peery, Winsley, Riley, Brough, Ebersole, Ferguson, Rasmussen, Mielke, Grant, Tate, Pruitt, Orr, Rayburn, Inslee, Jacobsen, G. Fisher, Kremen, G. Cole, J. Kohl, Mitchell, Ogden and Valle

Read first time 01/15/92. Referred to Committees on Education/ Appropriations.

1 AN ACT Relating to academic, vocational, and technological  
2 education; adding new sections to chapter 28A.630 RCW; creating a new  
3 section; making an appropriation; providing an expiration date; and  
4 declaring an emergency.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that improving  
7 the quality of education is essential to improving the ability of  
8 students to prosper in a changing work force. Today's employers have  
9 a tremendous need for technically skilled people whether they are  
10 graduating from high school, a community college, a four-year  
11 university, or a technical college.

12 (2) The legislature further finds that student motivation can be  
13 greatly increased by demonstration of practical application of course  
14 work content and relevancy to student career interests.

1 (3) The legislature further finds that our rapidly changing work  
2 force demands improving basic competencies and skills by challenging  
3 and motivating our students to compete in a global economy.

4 (4) The legislature further finds that students should have access  
5 to both academic and vocational education in accordance with their  
6 interests, needs, and abilities. The elimination of rigid tracking  
7 into educational programs will increase students post high school  
8 options and expose students to a wide range of vocational and academic  
9 opportunities.

10 (5) The purpose of sections 2 through 14 of this act is to equip  
11 students with increased academic and vocational education opportunities  
12 through the establishment of three academic and vocational integration  
13 development projects geographically distributed throughout the state.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** There is established in the office of  
15 the superintendent of public instruction an academic and vocational  
16 integration development program which shall fund and coordinate three  
17 pilot projects to develop model secondary school projects. The  
18 projects shall combine academic and vocational education into a single  
19 instructional system that is responsive to the educational needs of all  
20 students in secondary schools. Goals of the projects within the  
21 program shall include at a minimum:

22 (1) Integration of vocational and academic instructional curriculum  
23 into a single curriculum;

24 (2) Emphasis on increased vocational, personal, and academic  
25 guidance and counseling for students as an essential component of the  
26 student's high school experience;

27 (3) Active participation of educators in the planning,  
28 implementation, and operation of the project, including increased  
29 opportunities for professional development and in-service training; and

1 (4) Active participation by employers, private and public community  
2 service providers, parents, and community members in the development  
3 and operation of the project.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The superintendent of public  
5 instruction, with the assistance of the state board of education and in  
6 consultation with the work force training and education coordinating  
7 board, shall develop a process for schools or school districts to apply  
8 to participate in the academic and vocational integration development  
9 program. The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall  
10 review and select projects for grant awards, and monitor and evaluate  
11 the academic and vocational integration development program.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) The superintendent of public  
13 instruction shall appoint a task force on academic and vocational  
14 integration. The task force shall advise the superintendent of public  
15 instruction in the development of the process for applying to  
16 participate in the academic and vocational integration development  
17 program, and review and selection of projects under section 3 of this  
18 act.

19 (2) The task force of ten people shall be appointed by the  
20 superintendent of public instruction. Appointed members who are not  
21 legislators shall be reimbursed for travel expenses under RCW 43.03.050  
22 and 43.03.060. Appointed members who are members of the legislature  
23 shall be reimbursed for travel expenses under RCW 44.04.120. Members  
24 of the task force shall serve for a period of six years.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Initial applications to participate in  
26 the academic and vocational integration development program shall be  
27 submitted by the school district board of directors to the

1 superintendent of public instruction not later than June 1, 1992.  
2 Subject to available funding, additional application may be submitted  
3 for board consideration by November 1 of subsequent years. Each  
4 application shall include a proposed plan that:

5 (1) Enumerates specific activities to be carried out as part of the  
6 pilot school's project;

7 (2) Commits all parties to work cooperatively during the term of  
8 the pilot project;

9 (3) Includes provisions for certificated school staff and  
10 classified school employees whose primary duties are the daily  
11 educational instruction of students, to be employed on supplemental  
12 contracts with additional compensation for a minimum of ten additional  
13 days beyond the general state-funded school year allocations, and staff  
14 development time as provided by legislative appropriation, and, if  
15 there is an application for a waiver of a provision of RCW 28A.400.200,  
16 district resources may be used to fund the employment of staff beyond  
17 the ten additional days for the purposes of the pilot project;

18 (4) Includes budget plans for the project and additional  
19 anticipated sources of funding, including private grants and  
20 contributions, if any;

21 (5) Identifies the technical resources desired, the potential costs  
22 of those resources, and the institutions of higher education,  
23 educational service districts, or consultants available to provide such  
24 services;

25 (6) Identifies the evaluation and accountability processes to be  
26 used to measure school-wide student and project performance, and  
27 identifies a model that provides the basis for a staff incentive pay  
28 system. Implementation of the staff incentive pay system is not  
29 required;

1 (7) Justifies each request for waiver of specific state statutes or  
2 administrative rules during at least the first two years of the  
3 project;

4 (8) Includes a written statement that school directors and  
5 administrators are willing to exempt the pilot school or schools from  
6 specifically identified local rules, as needed;

7 (9) Includes a written statement that the school directors and the  
8 local bargaining agents will modify those portions of their local  
9 agreements as applicable for the pilot schools' projects;

10 (10) Includes evidence that the school district employs a  
11 certified vocational education administrator; and

12 (11) Includes written statements of support from the district's  
13 board of directors, the district superintendent, the principal and  
14 staff of the building requesting to become a pilot school; and  
15 statements of support, willingness to participate, or concerns from any  
16 interested parent, business, or community organization.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** The superintendent of public instruction  
18 and the task force, after reviewing project proposals, shall, subject  
19 to money being appropriated by the legislature for this purpose,  
20 select:

21 (1) Not more than ten projects during each biennium;

22 (2) Projects that reflect, as much as possible, a balance among  
23 geographic areas and school characteristics and sizes.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** (1) The superintendent of public  
25 instruction shall administer sections 1 through 14 of this act and may  
26 award grant funding, subject to money being appropriated by the  
27 legislature for this purpose for projects selected by the  
28 superintendent under section 6 of this act.

1 (2) The superintendent of public instruction shall distribute the  
2 initial award grants by July 30, 1992. The initial academic and  
3 vocational integration development projects shall commence with the  
4 1992-93 school year.

5 (3) The academic and vocational integration development projects  
6 may be conducted for up to six years, if funds are provided. Subject  
7 to approval by the superintendent of public instruction and continued  
8 state funding, projects initially funded for two years may be extended  
9 for a total period not to exceed six years. Future funding shall be  
10 conditioned on a positive evaluation of the project.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** (1) The superintendent of public  
12 instruction may accept, receive, and administer for the purposes of  
13 sections 1 through 14 of this act such gifts, grants, and contributions  
14 as may be provided from public and private sources for the purposes of  
15 sections 1 through 14 of this act.

16 (2) The academic and vocational integration development program  
17 account is hereby established in the custody of the state treasurer.  
18 The superintendent of public instruction shall deposit in the account  
19 all moneys received under this section. Moneys in the account may be  
20 spent only for the purposes of sections 1 through 14 of this act.  
21 Disbursements from this account shall be on the authorization of the  
22 superintendent of public instruction or the superintendent's designee.  
23 The account is subject to the allotment procedure provided under  
24 chapter 43.88 RCW, but no appropriation is required for disbursements.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** The state board of education, where  
26 appropriate, or the superintendent of public instruction, where  
27 appropriate, may grant waivers to pilot project districts from the  
28 provisions of statutes or administrative rules relating to: The length

1 of the school year; teacher contact hour requirements; program hour  
2 offerings; teacher to student ratios; salary lid compliance  
3 requirements; the commingling of funds appropriated by the legislature  
4 on a categorical basis for such programs as, but not limited to, highly  
5 capable students, transitional bilingual instruction, and learning  
6 assistance; and other administrative rules which in the opinion of the  
7 state board of education or the superintendent of public instruction  
8 may need to be waived in order to implement a pilot project proposal.

9       NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 10.**       State rules dealing with public health,  
10 safety, and civil rights, including accessibility by the handicapped,  
11 shall not be waived. A school district may request the state board of  
12 education or the superintendent of public instruction to ask the United  
13 States department of education or other federal agencies to waive  
14 certain federal regulations necessary to fully implement the proposed  
15 pilot project.

16       NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 11.**       (1) The superintendent of public  
17 instruction shall ensure that successful applicant school districts  
18 will be afforded resource and special support assistance, as specified  
19 in legislative appropriations, in undertaking academic and vocational  
20 integration development program activities. The superintendent shall  
21 develop a process that coordinates and facilitates linkages among  
22 participating school districts, technical colleges, and colleges and  
23 universities. Staff from schools or districts selected to participate  
24 in the academic and vocational integration development program shall be  
25 given priority consideration for participation in state-sponsored staff  
26 development programs and summer institutes that are directly related to  
27 the goals of the selected projects.

1 (2) The state board of education may adopt rules under chapter  
2 34.05 RCW as necessary to implement its duties under sections 1 through  
3 14 of this act.

4 (3) The superintendent of public instruction may adopt rules under  
5 chapter 34.05 RCW as necessary to implement the superintendent's duties  
6 under sections 1 through 14 of this act.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 12.** (1) The superintendent of public  
8 instruction shall report to the legislature on the progress of the  
9 schools for the academic and vocational integration development program  
10 by January 15 of each odd-numbered year, including a recommendation on  
11 the number of additional pilot schools that should be authorized and  
12 funded. The first report shall be submitted by January 15, 1993.

13 (2) Each school district selected to participate in the academic  
14 and vocational integration development program shall submit an annual  
15 report to the superintendent of public instruction on the progress of  
16 the pilot project as a condition of receipt of continued funding.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 13.** The superintendent of public  
18 instruction, through the state clearinghouse for education information,  
19 shall collect and disseminate to all school districts and other  
20 interested parties information about the academic and vocational  
21 integration development pilot projects.

22 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 14.** Sections 1 through 14 of this act may be  
23 known and cited as the academic and vocational integration development  
24 program.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 15.** Sections 1 through 14 of this act are  
26 each added to chapter 28A.630 RCW.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 16.**        Sections 1 through 14 of this act shall  
2 expire June 30, 1999.

3        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 17.**        The sum of two hundred fifty thousand  
4 dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for  
5 the biennium ending June 30, 1993, from the general fund to the  
6 superintendent of public instruction for the purposes of the academic  
7 and vocational integration development program under sections 1 through  
8 14 of this act. Grants to individual pilot projects shall not exceed  
9 one hundred thousand dollars per biennium.

10       NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 18.**        If any provision of this act or its  
11 application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the  
12 remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other  
13 persons or circumstances is not affected.

14       NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 19.**        If any part of this act is found to be  
15 in conflict with federal requirements that are a prescribed condition  
16 to the allocation of federal funds to the state, the conflicting part  
17 of this act is inoperative solely to the extent of the conflict and  
18 with respect to the agencies directly affected, and this finding does  
19 not affect the operation of the remainder of this act in its  
20 application to the agencies concerned. The rules under this act shall  
21 meet federal requirements that are a necessary condition to the receipt  
22 of federal funds by the state.

23       NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 20.**        This act is necessary for the immediate  
24 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the  
25 state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take  
26 effect immediately.