
HOUSE BILL 1027

State of Washington

54th Legislature

1995 Regular Session

By Representatives Brumsickle, Carlson, Cooke, Ballasiotes, B. Thomas, Chandler, Lisk, Horn, Foreman, Dyer, Sehlin, Silver, Sherstad, Benton, Schoesler, Buck, Johnson, Thompson, Radcliff, Hickel, Backlund, Cairnes, Elliot, Pennington, Mastin, Carrell, Mitchell, K. Schmidt, Chappell, Smith, Honeyford, Blanton, D. Schmidt, Mulliken, McMorris, Clements, Fuhrman, Sheldon, Huff, Mielke, Talcott and McMahan

Read first time 01/09/95. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to redirecting resources to the classroom; creating
2 new sections; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** INTENT. The legislature finds that in order
5 to improve student learning in Washington's public schools, school
6 districts and the state need to take actions to ensure that the maximum
7 amount of available funding and resources reach the classroom.

8 It is the intent of the legislature to redirect resources to
9 classrooms through the reduction of state-level and school district
10 central office administration by identifying and eliminating
11 unnecessary state and school district administrative expenditures, and
12 by reducing the need for these administrators through the reduction of
13 state-mandated requirements and reporting demands.

14 It is the further intent of the legislature that the savings
15 achieved through the reduction in administrative expenditures be used
16 to increase the financial resources used for teachers, teacher
17 assistants, and other classroom support staff, including salaries and
18 benefits, and for textbooks, supplies, and technology used in the
19 classroom. It is the intent of the legislature to redirect savings in

1 administrative costs to the classroom, not to reduce funding levels for
2 the public schools.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** REDUCING STATE-LEVEL ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.

4 (1) The joint select committee on education restructuring established
5 in RCW 28A.630.950 shall review the current constitutional and
6 statutory roles and responsibilities of the office of the
7 superintendent of public instruction, the state board of education, the
8 work force training and education coordinating board, and educational
9 service districts, and by December 15, 1995, develop a recommendation
10 to the legislature for creating a revised state-level education
11 governance system. The new state-level governance system shall: (a)
12 Focus on the improvement of student learning; (b) result in a reduction
13 of state-level administrative expenditures; (c) provide school district
14 staff and parents technical assistance and leadership; (d) result in
15 minimal regulatory oversight; and (e) have clear lines of authority and
16 accountability.

17 (2) This section shall expire December 31, 1995.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** REDUCING SCHOOL DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE

19 COSTS. (1) Before May 15, 1995, the superintendent of public
20 instruction shall identify school districts that have excessively low
21 classroom expenditures. In making the determination that a school
22 district has excessively low classroom expenditures, the superintendent
23 shall identify school districts with enrollments greater than five
24 hundred full-time equivalent students that expended less than two-
25 thirds of their total general fund expenditures on teaching and
26 teaching support during the 1993-94 fiscal year as reported in annual
27 financial statements (report F-196).

28 (2) Before June 1, 1995, the superintendent of public instruction
29 shall notify the president of the board of directors of the identified
30 districts, and require that the school district: (a) Conduct an
31 analysis of its administrative and classroom expenditures; (b) take
32 actions to reduce central office and other expenditures and redirect
33 the savings to classrooms, or document any unique characteristics of
34 the district that reduces the availability of funds for the classroom;
35 and (c) submit a report by December 15, 1995, that includes the
36 specific actions that the school district has taken, or plans to take,
37 to increase classroom expenditures, or documentation that the district

1 has unique characteristics that reduces its ability to increase
2 classroom expenditures.

3 (3) The superintendent of public instruction shall summarize the
4 information submitted by the districts and report to the fiscal and
5 education policy committees of the legislature on or before January 15,
6 1996. If one or more of the fiscal and policy committees find that
7 adequate progress is not being made in redirecting resources to the
8 classroom, the committee or committees shall recommend to the
9 legislature additional measures that should be taken.

10 (4) The process established in subsections (1) through (3) of this
11 section shall be repeated during calendar year 1997, with the summary
12 in subsection (3) of this section being submitted to the legislature
13 before December 31, 1997.

14 (5) This section shall expire December 31, 1997.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** REDUCING THE NEED FOR CENTRAL OFFICE
16 ADMINISTRATORS. (1) The six member school regulatory review task force
17 is established. The sole purpose of the task force is to conduct a
18 review of the rules of the office of the superintendent of public
19 instruction and the state board of education to identify rules that
20 inhibit, or do not enhance, student learning, including rules that
21 place unnecessary procedural, governance, and paperwork burdens on
22 school districts.

23 (2) The house of representatives and the senate shall each select
24 one member of the task force. In addition, state-wide organizations
25 representing school directors, school administrators, parents, and
26 businesses shall each select one member. The chair shall be selected
27 by members of the task force.

28 (3) The review, with recommendations for repeal or modification of
29 identified rules, shall be completed by June 30, 1996.

30 (4) The superintendent of public instruction and the state board of
31 education shall repeal or modify the identified rules as recommended by
32 the task force before December 31, 1996.

33 (5) This section shall expire December 31, 1996.

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Captions used in this act do not constitute
35 any part of the law.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** This act is necessary for the immediate
2 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
3 state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take
4 effect May 1, 1995.

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