
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2425

State of Washington

54th Legislature

1996 Regular Session

By House Committee on Education (originally sponsored by Representatives Elliot, Patterson, Keiser and Thompson)

Read first time 02/02/96.

1 AN ACT Relating to incentives for high schools to adopt the
2 international baccalaureate program; creating new sections; and
3 providing an expiration date.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that it is essential
6 that we raise the academic rigor of the curriculum in our public
7 schools. If our children are going to be able to compete in the
8 increasingly global economy and lead satisfying and productive lives,
9 they must be offered an educational program that has high standards
10 in academically challenging subject areas.

11 The legislature further finds that the international
12 baccalaureate program achieves this goal of having high standards in
13 academically challenging subject areas. The international
14 baccalaureate program, which is voluntarily adopted by high schools,
15 includes two years of study and a carefully controlled system of
16 examinations. The curriculum includes English, a foreign language,
17 history, philosophy, chemistry, biology, physics, mathematics, and an
18 elective. The diploma earned in the international baccalaureate

1 program is recognized as an automatic admission standard to colleges
2 and universities in more than forty nations throughout the world.

3 The legislature further finds that five high schools in the state
4 of Washington are involved in the program, and that additional high
5 schools would adopt the international baccalaureate program if
6 financial assistance were available to help pay for the application
7 fees, staff training costs, and other expenses.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The superintendent of public instruction
9 shall award incentive grants to high schools for the purpose of
10 adopting the international baccalaureate program. The grants shall
11 be used to pay for application fees, staff training costs, and other
12 expenses associated with adopting the program. The superintendent
13 shall require that high schools provide local funding that meets or
14 exceeds the amount of the grant. The maximum amount of a grant shall
15 be twenty-five thousand dollars. If the amount of appropriated funds
16 prevents the superintendent from awarding twenty-five thousand dollar
17 grants to all high schools that apply, the amount of the grant to
18 each high school shall be prorated. The superintendent shall award
19 the grants no later than November 15, 1996.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** If specific funding for the purposes of
21 this act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not
22 provided by June 30, 1996, in the omnibus appropriations act, this
23 act is null and void.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act shall expire December 31, 1996.

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