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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 4411

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State of Washington                      57th Legislature                      2001 Regular Session

By Representatives Murray and Alexander

Read first time . Referred to Committee on .

1            WHEREAS, The legislature recognizes that school districts are  
2 experiencing student enrollment growth beyond current physical capacity  
3 and that enrollment projections indicate several thousand new students  
4 will be entering the system in the next seven years, placing a  
5 considerable burden on existing facilities; and

6            WHEREAS, The legislature recognizes that many districts have  
7 existing facilities in need of repair and renovation in order to  
8 improve safety and meet the needs of an increasing student population;  
9 and

10           WHEREAS, Despite full funding of eligible school construction  
11 projects for the past two biennia, the need for funding of additional  
12 projects continues to outpace available funds; and

13           WHEREAS, The legislature recognizes the importance of providing an  
14 adequate and stable funding source to meet the needs of the variety of  
15 school construction projects in demand by the districts; and

16           WHEREAS, Review of funding for school construction projects has in  
17 the past narrowly focused on capital bonds with little attention to  
18 potential alternatives and improving efficiencies within the system in  
19 order to reduce capital construction costs; and

1       WHEREAS, Laws and rules regarding project eligibility for funding  
2 are in need of review to evaluate whether the current process  
3 effectively and efficiently identifies eligible projects; and

4       WHEREAS, Review of school construction laws and rules must be  
5 conducted from both policy and fiscal perspectives in order to ensure  
6 that necessary modifications to the system reflect both what is  
7 fiscally prudent and what fulfills the variety of structural needs  
8 experienced in geographically diverse districts;

9       NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the House of Representatives of  
10 the state of Washington, the Senate concurring, that a joint select  
11 committee on school construction funding be established: To review the  
12 statutory provisions regarding the funding of school construction  
13 projects; to provide review of the current funding process to identify  
14 areas in need of modification in order to improve efficiency and  
15 streamline the current process; to identify additional funding  
16 mechanisms to increase stability of available funding resources; and to  
17 evaluate potential future demands on the system, and the flexibility  
18 needed in the system to address diverse district and geographic needs;  
19 and

20       BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the joint select committee on school  
21 construction funding consist of twelve members, two members each, one  
22 from each major caucus, from the House of Representatives Committees on  
23 Capital Budget, Finance, and Education, appointed by the Co-Speakers of  
24 the House of Representatives, and four members from the Senate  
25 Committee on Ways and Means, two from each major caucus, and two  
26 members from the Senate Committee on Education, one from each major  
27 caucus, all appointed by the President of the Senate; and

28       BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the joint select committee report its  
29 findings and recommendations to the legislature by December 31, 2001.

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