

SSB 5012 - S AMD 121

By Senator McAuliffe

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

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The office of financial management
4 shall conduct a comprehensive study of the Washington education finance
5 system, including examination of the impact of charter schools on the
6 system and a review of alternative teacher compensation models.

7 (2) The study shall, at a minimum:

8 (a) Compare Washington's common school funding system with those in
9 other states that are beginning to link finance systems with education
10 reform and expected student learning outcomes and how the funding of
11 charter schools have or would impact the funding systems;

12 (b) Review the role of state and local funding and levy
13 equalization policies in the Washington common school finance system,
14 building upon the 2002 joint task force on local effort assistance
15 report and including how the funding of charter schools would impact
16 these policies;

17 (c) Design alternative common school finance systems for
18 Washington, with consideration of the following principles:

19 (i) Aligning the finance system with the policy expectations and
20 goals established under education reform to provide all students the
21 opportunity to achieve state standards;

22 (ii) Recognizing staffing as a key component of school district
23 costs, including the number of and compensation for certificated
24 instructional staff, certificated administrative staff, and classified
25 staff;

26 (iii) Providing stable and predictable funding for school
27 districts;

28 (iv) Supporting local flexibility in program delivery, including
29 charter schools; and

1 (v) Providing accountability for taxpayers focused on student
2 learning outcomes;

3 (d) Design one or more alternative compensation models that:

4 (i) Attract and retain high performing teachers in all Washington
5 schools;

6 (ii) Reward teachers for improving their skills and knowledge in a
7 manner that translates into improved student learning;

8 (iii) Recognize participation in teacher mentoring programs; and
9 (iv) Recognize different career stages for teachers and the
10 leadership roles they perform in schools; and

11 (e) Design a prekindergarten finance system to maximize school
12 readiness and provide smooth transitions for children into
13 kindergarten.

14 (3)(a) A twenty-three member steering committee shall direct the
15 office of financial management in the system review and the development
16 of alternatives and recommendations.

17 (b) The governor and the superintendent of public instruction shall
18 jointly appoint the following members of the steering committee: A
19 school board director, two school district administrators, a school
20 principal, two certificated instructional staff, and a classified
21 school employee. When making appointments, the governor and the
22 superintendent shall consider regional representation on the committee,
23 including the need for urban, rural, and suburban district
24 perspectives.

25 (c) The governor shall appoint the following members of the
26 steering committee: An early childhood educator, a parent, a business
27 executive, and three public members.

28 (d) The steering committee shall include the superintendent of
29 public instruction, or the superintendent's designee.

30 (e) The steering committee shall also include eight legislators:
31 The speaker of the house of representatives, the senate majority
32 leader, the house of representatives and senate minority leaders, and
33 one additional member appointed by each major caucus of the house of
34 representatives and the senate.

35 (f) The governor, or the governor's appointee, shall chair the
36 committee.

37 (g) Appointments to the steering committee shall be completed
38 within thirty days of the effective date of this section.

1 (h) The committee may form an executive committee, create
2 subcommittees, designate alternative representatives, and define other
3 procedures, as needed, for the operation of the committee.

4 (i) Legislative members of the steering committee shall be
5 reimbursed for travel expenses as provided in RCW 44.04.120. Other
6 members of the steering committee shall, and members of subcommittees
7 may, be reimbursed for travel expenses as provided in RCW 43.03.050 and
8 43.03.060.

9 (4) The office of the superintendent of public instruction, the
10 academic achievement and accountability commission, the state board of
11 education, and the professional educator standards board shall provide
12 data and technical expertise to support the study.

13 (5) The office of financial management shall report initial
14 findings and recommendations of the committee to the legislature,
15 including the education and fiscal committees of the house of
16 representatives and the senate, by June 30, 2004. A final report shall
17 be provided to the education and fiscal committees of the house of
18 representatives and the senate by December 20, 2004.

19 (6) This section expires June 30, 2005."

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20 On page 1, beginning on line 1 of the title, after "Relating to"
21 strike the remainder of the title and insert "studying the impact of
22 charter schools and other factors on the education finance system;
23 creating a new section; and providing an expiration date."

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