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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2423**

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**State of Washington                      59th Legislature                      2006 Regular Session**

**By** House Committee on Education (originally sponsored by Representatives Anderson, Talcott, Rodne and Hunter)

READ FIRST TIME 02/03/06.

1            AN ACT Relating to creating a comprehensive guidance, counseling,  
2 and planning program in schools; adding a new section to chapter  
3 28A.600 RCW; and creating new sections.

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

5            NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature recognizes that there are  
6 specific skills and a body of knowledge that each student needs to  
7 chart a course through middle school, high school, and posthigh school  
8 options. Each student needs active involvement from parents and at  
9 least one supportive adult in the school who knows the student well and  
10 cares about the student's progress and future. Effective guidance and  
11 counseling programs are essential to creating a learning environment  
12 where staff, students, and their families work cooperatively to create  
13 a personalized educational experience for every student. To empower  
14 and motivate all students and parents to take a greater role in  
15 charting the students' own educational experiences, the legislature  
16 intends to strengthen schools' guidance, counseling, and planning  
17 programs.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 2.**    A new section is added to chapter 28A.600  
2    RCW to read as follows:

3        (1) The legislature encourages each middle school, junior high  
4    school, and high school to implement a comprehensive guidance,  
5    counseling, and planning program for all students. The purpose of the  
6    program is to support students as they navigate their education and  
7    plan their future; encourage an ongoing and personal relationship  
8    between each student and an adult in the school; and involve parents in  
9    students' educational decisions and plans.

10       (2) A comprehensive guidance, counseling, and planning program is  
11    a program that contains at least the following components:

12       (a) A curriculum intended to provide the skills and knowledge  
13    students need to select courses, explore options, plan for their  
14    future, and take steps to implement their plans. The curriculum may  
15    include such topics as analysis of students' test results; assessments  
16    of student interests and aptitude; goal-setting skills; planning for  
17    high school course selection; independent living skills; and  
18    postsecondary options and how to access them;

19       (b) Regular meetings between each student and a teacher or  
20    counselor who serves as an advisor and mentor throughout the student's  
21    enrollment at the school;

22       (c) Student-led conferences with the student's parents, guardians,  
23    or family members and the student's advisor for the purpose of  
24    demonstrating the student's accomplishments; identifying weaknesses;  
25    planning and selecting courses; and setting long-term goals; and

26       (d) Data collection that allows schools to monitor students'  
27    progress.

28       NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 3.**    (1) Subject to the availability of funds  
29    appropriated for this purpose, the superintendent of public instruction  
30    shall:

31       (a) Develop and disseminate the curriculum for the comprehensive  
32    guidance, counseling, and planning program under section 2 of this act  
33    to all school districts no later than the beginning of the 2006-07  
34    school year;

35       (b) Develop and disseminate electronic student planning tools and  
36    a software package to analyze the impact of the implementation of the  
37    program on student performance;

1 (c) Develop and conduct regional training seminars for teachers on  
2 the curriculum and on counseling and mentoring skills;

3 (d) Monitor and evaluate implementation of the program during the  
4 fall of 2006 in order to revise and improve the curriculum by the  
5 spring of 2007; and

6 (e) Allocate grants to selected schools for the purpose of  
7 implementing the program. The superintendent shall develop and publish  
8 the grant selection criteria, number of awards, and award amounts. The  
9 first round of at least twenty-five grant recipients shall be selected  
10 and notified by September 2006. The second round of at least seventy-  
11 five grant recipients shall be selected and notified by January 2007.  
12 The purpose of the grants is to provide time for school staff to plan  
13 and integrate the comprehensive program into their schools. To the  
14 extent possible, the superintendent shall include representation from  
15 school districts of varying sizes and from different geographic regions  
16 of the state in the grant allocation.

17 (2) By January 1, 2009, the superintendent of public instruction  
18 shall report to the education committees of the legislature regarding  
19 the impact of comprehensive guidance, counseling, and planning programs  
20 on student performance.

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