

2SHB 3129 - S COMM AMD

By Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education

ADOPTED 03/06/2008

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

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that student interest
4 and participation in online learning continues to grow. At the same
5 time, the legislature, business community, and public are encouraging
6 additional programs for high school students to earn college credits.
7 Fortunately for students attending schools in rural areas, the two
8 trends can be combined to provide learning opportunities that are both
9 rigorous and accessible, and in some cases available free to the
10 student. In 2006-07, more than four thousand five hundred students
11 were able to take an online college course through the running start
12 program, which the community and technical college system makes
13 accessible statewide through its WashingtonOnline consortium. A more
14 concerted effort is needed to make schools and students aware of these
15 opportunities.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.300
17 RCW to read as follows:

18 (1) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall
19 compile information about online learning programs for high school
20 students to earn college credit and place the information on its web
21 site. Examples of information to be compiled and placed on the web
22 site include links to purveyors of online learning programs,
23 comparisons among various types of programs regarding costs or awarding
24 of credit, advantages and disadvantages of online learning programs,
25 and other general assistance and guidance for students, teachers, and
26 counselors in selecting and considering online learning programs. The
27 office shall use the expertise of the digital learning commons and
28 WashingtonOnline to provide assistance and suggest resources.

1 (2) High schools shall ensure that teachers and counselors have
2 information about online learning programs for high school students to
3 earn college credit and are able to assist parents and students in
4 accessing the information. High schools shall ensure that parents and
5 students have opportunities to learn about online learning programs
6 under this section.

7 (3) For the purposes of this section, online learning programs for
8 high school students to earn college credit include such programs as
9 the running start program under RCW 28A.600.300 through 28A.600.400,
10 advanced placement courses authorized by the college board, the digital
11 learning commons, University of Washington extension, WashingtonOnline,
12 and other programs and providers that meet qualifications under current
13 laws and rules to offer courses that high schools may accept for credit
14 toward graduation requirements or that offer courses generally accepted
15 for credit by public institutions of higher education in Washington.

16 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28A.600.320 and 1994 c 205 s 3 are each amended to
17 read as follows:

18 A school district shall provide general information about the
19 program to all pupils in grades ten, eleven, and twelve and the parents
20 and guardians of those pupils, including information about the
21 opportunity to enroll in the program through online courses available
22 at community and technical colleges and other state institutions of
23 higher education. To assist the district in planning, a pupil shall
24 inform the district of the pupil's intent to enroll in courses at an
25 institution of higher education for credit. Students are responsible
26 for applying for admission to the institution of higher education.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** If specific funding for the purposes of this
28 act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not provided by
29 June 30, 2008, in the omnibus appropriations act, this act is null and
30 void."

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1 On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "credit;" strike the
2 remainder of the title and insert "amending RCW 28A.600.320; adding a
3 new section to chapter 28A.300 RCW; and creating new sections."

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