
SENATE BILL 5667

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By Senators Litzow, Rolfes, Fain, McAuliffe, Harper, Rivers, Tom, Eide, Sheldon, and Hill

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1 AN ACT Relating to online learning; amending RCW 28A.150.325,
2 28A.150.262, 28A.250.010, 28A.250.070, 28A.225.225, 28A.150.100,
3 28A.520.020, 28A.525.162, and 28A.525.166; reenacting and amending RCW
4 28A.225.220; adding new sections to chapter 28A.250 RCW; creating a new
5 section; and recodifying RCW 28A.150.262 and 28A.150.325.

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

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that online learning
8 is subject to two forms of state oversight in addition to the standard
9 oversight of public schools: The state approval process established in
10 2009 through the office of the superintendent of public instruction,
11 and also the regulations and stipulations directed at alternative
12 learning experience programs. The legislature finds that such
13 duplicative regulation is unnecessary and confusing for schools and
14 school districts seeking to offer online learning for students. A
15 single, consistent set of laws, rules, and procedures should suffice to
16 assure accountability while encouraging innovation and opportunities.

17 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.150.325 and 2011 1st sp.s. c 34 s 2 are each
18 amended to read as follows:

1 (1) For purposes of this chapter, "alternative learning experience
2 program" means a course or set of courses that is:

3 (a) Provided in whole or in part independently from a regular
4 classroom setting or schedule, but may include some components of
5 direct instruction;

6 (b) Supervised, monitored, assessed, evaluated, and documented by
7 a certificated teacher employed by the school district or under
8 contract as permitted by applicable rules; and

9 (c) Provided in accordance with a written student learning plan
10 that is implemented pursuant to the school district's policy and rules
11 adopted by the superintendent of public instruction for alternative
12 learning experiences.

13 (2) The broad categories of alternative learning experience
14 programs include, but are not limited to((÷

15 ~~(a) Online programs as defined in RCW 28A.150.262;~~

16 ~~(b))~~, parent partnership programs that include significant
17 participation and partnership by parents and families in the design and
18 implementation of a student's learning experience((÷)) and

19 ~~((÷))~~ contract-based learning programs. Online courses and
20 online school programs as defined in RCW 28A.250.010 that are delivered
21 by an online provider approved under RCW 28A.250.020 are not considered
22 alternative learning experience programs.

23 (3) School districts that offer alternative learning experience
24 programs may not provide any compensation, reimbursement, gift, reward,
25 or gratuity to any parents, guardians, or students for participation.
26 School district employees are prohibited from receiving any
27 compensation or payment as an incentive to increase student enrollment
28 of out-of-district students in an alternative learning experience
29 program. This prohibition includes, but is not limited to, providing
30 funds to parents, guardians, or students for the purchase of
31 educational materials, supplies, experiences, services, or
32 technological equipment. A district may purchase educational
33 materials, equipment, or other nonconsumable supplies for students' use
34 in alternative learning experience programs if the purchase is
35 consistent with the district's approved curriculum, conforms to
36 applicable laws and rules, and is made in the same manner as such
37 purchases are made for students in the district's regular instructional
38 program. Items so purchased remain the property of the school district

1 upon program completion. School districts may not purchase or contract
2 for instructional or cocurricular experiences and services that are
3 included in an alternative learning experience written student learning
4 plan, including but not limited to lessons, trips, and other
5 activities, unless substantially similar experiences and services are
6 available to students enrolled in the district's regular instructional
7 program. School districts that purchase or contract for such
8 experiences and services for students enrolled in an alternative
9 learning experience program must submit an annual report to the office
10 of the superintendent of public instruction detailing the costs and
11 purposes of the expenditures. These requirements extend to contracted
12 providers of alternative learning experience programs, and each
13 district shall be responsible for monitoring the compliance of its
14 providers with these requirements. (~~However, nothing in this section
15 shall prohibit school districts from contracting with online providers
16 approved by the office of the superintendent of public instruction
17 pursuant to chapter 28A.250 RCW.~~)

18 (4) Part-time enrollment in alternative learning experiences is
19 subject to the provisions of RCW 28A.150.350.

20 (5) The superintendent of public instruction shall adopt rules
21 defining minimum requirements and accountability for alternative
22 learning experience programs.

23 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28A.150.262 and 2011 1st sp.s. c 34 s 3 are each
24 amended to read as follows:

25 (~~Under RCW 28A.150.260,~~) The superintendent of public instruction
26 shall revise the definition of a full-time equivalent student to
27 include students who receive instruction through (~~alternative learning
28 experience~~) online courses or online school programs. (~~As used in
29 this section and RCW 28A.150.325, an "alternative learning experience
30 online program" is a set of online courses or an online school program
31 as defined in RCW 28A.250.010 that is delivered to students in whole or
32 in part independently from a regular classroom schedule.~~) Beginning
33 in the 2013-14 school year, (~~alternative learning experience~~) online
34 courses and online school programs must be offered by an online
35 provider approved by the superintendent of public instruction under RCW
36 28A.250.020 to meet the definition in this section. The rules shall
37 include but not be limited to the following:

1 (1) Defining a full-time equivalent student under RCW 28A.150.260
2 or part-time student under RCW 28A.150.350 based upon the district's
3 estimated average weekly hours of learning activity as identified in
4 the student's learning plan, as long as the student is found, through
5 monthly evaluation, to be making satisfactory progress((+)). The
6 monthly progress evaluation must be conducted as provided under section
7 4 of this act. The rules shall require districts providing programs
8 under this section to nonresident students to establish procedures that
9 address, at a minimum, the coordination of student counting for state
10 funding so that no student is counted for more than one full-time
11 equivalent in the aggregate;

12 (2) Requiring the board of directors of a school district offering,
13 or contracting under RCW 28A.150.305 to offer, an ((~~alternative~~
14 ~~learning experience~~)) online course or online school program to adopt
15 and annually review written policies for each ((~~program and program~~))
16 course, program, and online provider and to receive an annual report on
17 its ((~~digital alternative learning experience online~~)) courses and
18 programs from its staff;

19 (3) Requiring each school district offering or contracting to offer
20 an ((~~alternative learning experience~~)) online course or online school
21 program to report annually to the superintendent of public instruction
22 on the types of programs and course offerings, and number of students
23 participating;

24 (4) Requiring completion of a program self-evaluation;

25 (5) Requiring documentation of the district of the student's
26 physical residence;

27 (6) Requiring that supervision, monitoring, assessment, and
28 evaluation of the ((~~alternative learning experience~~)) online course or
29 online school program be provided by a certificated teacher;

30 (7) Requiring each school district offering online courses or
31 online school programs to identify the ratio of certificated
32 instructional staff to full-time equivalent students enrolled in such
33 courses or programs, and to include a description of their ratio as
34 part of the reports required under subsections (2) and (3) of this
35 section;

36 (8) Requiring reliable methods to verify a student is doing his or
37 her own work; the methods may include proctored examinations or

1 projects, including the use of web cams or other technologies.
2 "Proctored" means directly monitored by an adult authorized by the
3 school district;

4 (9) Requiring, for each student receiving instruction in an
5 (~~alternative learning experience~~) online course or online school
6 program, a learning plan that includes a description of course
7 objectives and information on the requirements a student must meet to
8 successfully complete the program or courses. The rules shall allow
9 course syllabi and other additional information to be used to meet the
10 requirement for a learning plan;

11 (10) Requiring that the district assess the educational progress of
12 enrolled students at least annually, using, for full-time students, the
13 state assessment for the student's grade level and using any other
14 annual assessments required by the school district. Part-time students
15 shall also be assessed at least annually. However, part-time students
16 who are either receiving home-based instruction under chapter 28A.200
17 RCW or who are enrolled in an approved private school under chapter
18 28A.195 RCW are not required to participate in the assessments required
19 under chapter 28A.655 RCW. The rules shall address how students who
20 reside outside the geographic service area of the school district are
21 to be assessed;

22 (11) Requiring that each student enrolled in the program have
23 direct personal contact with a certificated teacher at least weekly
24 until the student completes the course objectives or the requirements
25 in the learning plan. Direct personal contact is for the purposes of
26 instruction, review of assignments, testing, evaluation of student
27 progress, or other learning activities. Direct personal contact may
28 include the use of telephone, e-mail, instant messaging, interactive
29 video communication, or other means of digital communication;

30 (12) Requiring state-funded public schools or public school
31 programs whose primary purpose is to provide (~~alternative learning~~
32 ~~experience online learning~~) online courses or online school programs
33 to receive accreditation through the Northwest accreditation commission
34 or another national, regional, or state accreditation program listed by
35 the office of the superintendent of public instruction after
36 consultation with the Washington coalition for online learning;

37 (13) Requiring state-funded public schools or public school
38 programs whose primary purpose is to provide (~~alternative learning~~

1 ~~experience online learning~~) online courses or online school programs
2 to provide information to students and parents on whether or not the
3 courses or programs: Cover one or more of the school district's
4 learning goals or of the state's essential academic learning
5 requirements or whether they permit the student to meet one or more of
6 the state's or district's graduation requirements; and

7 (14) Requiring that a school district that provides one or more
8 (~~alternative learning experience~~) online courses to a student provide
9 the parent or guardian of the student, prior to the student's
10 enrollment, with a description of any difference between home-based
11 education as described in chapter 28A.200 RCW and the enrollment option
12 selected by the student. The parent or guardian shall sign
13 documentation attesting to his or her understanding of the difference
14 and the documentation shall be retained by the district and made
15 available for audit.

16 NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. A new section is added to chapter 28A.250
17 RCW to read as follows:

18 (1) For students whose previous monthly evaluation indicated
19 satisfactory progress and who are meeting the requirement for weekly
20 personal contact, a progress evaluation may be based only on the
21 student's performance on the learning goals and performance objectives
22 defined in the written student learning plan.

23 (2) For students whose previous monthly evaluation did not indicate
24 satisfactory progress or who are not meeting the requirement for weekly
25 personal contact, a progress evaluation must include the student's
26 performance on the learning goals and performance objectives defined in
27 the written student learning plan, a documented conference based on
28 direct personal contact between the teacher and the student about what
29 action or achievement by the student is needed to demonstrate
30 satisfactory progress, and at least one of the following items to be
31 included in an intervention plan:

32 (a) A plan for increased frequency and duration of communication
33 between the teacher and the student;

34 (b) A change in the prescribed manner of direct personal contact;

35 (c) Modification of the goals and objectives of the student
36 learning plan;

- 1 (d) A requirement that the student engage in synchronous learning;
- 2 or
- 3 (e) Modification of course work or course content.

4 **Sec. 5.** RCW 28A.250.010 and 2011 1st sp.s. c 34 s 5 are each
5 amended to read as follows:

6 The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter
7 unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

8 (1)(a) "Multidistrict online provider" means:

9 (i) A private or nonprofit organization that enters into a contract
10 with a school district to provide online courses or programs to K-12
11 students from more than one school district;

12 (ii) A private or nonprofit organization that enters into contracts
13 with multiple school districts to provide online courses or programs to
14 K-12 students from those districts; or

15 (iii) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, a school
16 district that provides online courses or programs to students who
17 reside outside the geographic boundaries of the school district.

18 (b) "Multidistrict online provider" does not include a school
19 district online learning program in which fewer than ten percent of the
20 students enrolled in the program are from other districts under the
21 interdistrict student transfer provisions of RCW 28A.225.225.
22 "Multidistrict online provider" also does not include regional online
23 learning programs that are jointly developed and implemented by two or
24 more school districts or an educational service district through an
25 interdistrict cooperative program agreement that addresses, at minimum,
26 how the districts share student full-time equivalency for state basic
27 education funding purposes and how categorical education programs,
28 including special education, are provided to eligible students.

29 (2)(a) "Online course" means a course where:

30 (i) More than half of the course content is delivered
31 electronically using the internet or other computer-based methods; and

32 (ii) More than half of the teaching is conducted from a remote
33 location through an online course learning management system or other
34 online or electronic tools.

35 (b) "Online school program" means a school program that:

36 (i) Offers courses or grade-level coursework that is delivered

1 primarily electronically using the internet or other computer-based
2 methods;

3 (ii) Offers courses or grade-level coursework that is (~~taught~~)
4 facilitated by a teacher primarily from a remote location using online
5 or other electronic tools. Students enrolled in an online program may
6 have access to the teacher synchronously, asynchronously, or both;

7 (iii) Offers a sequential set of online courses or grade-level
8 coursework that may be taken in a single school term or throughout the
9 school year in a manner that could provide a full-time basic education
10 program if so desired by the student. Students may enroll in the
11 program as part-time or full-time students; and

12 (iv) Has an online component of the program with online lessons and
13 tools for student and data management.

14 (c) An online course or online school program may be delivered to
15 students at school as part of the regularly scheduled school day. An
16 online course or online school program also may be delivered to
17 students, in whole or in part, independently from a regular classroom
18 schedule, but such courses or programs must comply with RCW 28A.150.262
19 (as recodified by this act) to qualify for state basic education
20 funding.

21 (3) "Online provider" means any provider of an online course or
22 program, including multidistrict online providers, all school district
23 online learning programs, and all regional online learning programs.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.250
25 RCW to read as follows:

26 (1) School districts that offer or contract to offer online courses
27 or online school programs may not provide any compensation,
28 reimbursement, gift, reward, or gratuity to any parents, guardians, or
29 students for participation. School district employees are prohibited
30 from receiving any compensation or payment as an incentive to increase
31 student enrollment of out-of-district students in an online course or
32 online school program. This prohibition includes, but is not limited
33 to, providing funds to parents, guardians, or students for the purchase
34 of educational materials, supplies, experiences, services, or
35 technological equipment. A district may purchase educational
36 materials, equipment, or other nonconsumable supplies for students' use
37 in online courses or online school programs if the purchase is

1 consistent with the district's approved curriculum, conforms to
2 applicable laws and rules, and is made in the same manner as such
3 purchases are made for students in the district's regular instructional
4 program. Items so purchased remain the property of the school district
5 upon program completion.

6 (2) School districts may not purchase or contract for instructional
7 or cocurricular experiences and services that are included in an online
8 student's written student learning plan, including but not limited to
9 lessons, trips, and other activities, unless substantially similar
10 experiences and services are available to students enrolled in the
11 district's regular instructional program. School districts that
12 purchase or contract for such experiences and services for students
13 enrolled in online courses or online school programs must submit an
14 annual report to the office of the superintendent of public instruction
15 detailing the costs and purposes of the expenditures. These
16 requirements extend to contracted providers of online courses and
17 online school programs, and each district shall be responsible for
18 monitoring the compliance of its providers with these requirements.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.250
20 RCW to read as follows:

21 An online school program may request a waiver from the office of
22 the superintendent of public instruction to administer one or more
23 sections of the statewide student assessment for grades three through
24 eight for some or all students enrolled in the program on alternate
25 days or on an alternate schedule, as long as the administration is
26 within the testing period established by the office. The office may
27 deny a request for a waiver if the online school program's proposal
28 does not maintain adequate test security or would reduce the
29 reliability of the assessment results by providing an inequitable
30 advantage for some students.

31 **Sec. 8.** RCW 28A.250.070 and 2009 c 542 s 8 are each amended to
32 read as follows:

33 Nothing in this chapter is intended to diminish the rights of
34 students to attend a nonresident school district in accordance with RCW
35 28A.225.220 through 28A.225.230 for the purposes of enrolling in online
36 courses or online school programs. The office of online learning under

1 RCW 28A.250.030 shall develop a standard form, which must be used by
2 all school districts, for releasing a student to a nonresident school
3 district for the purposes of enrolling in an online course or online
4 school program.

5 **Sec. 9.** RCW 28A.225.220 and 1995 c 335 s 602 and 1995 c 52 s 2 are
6 each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

7 (1) Any board of directors may make agreements with adults choosing
8 to attend school, and may charge the adults reasonable tuition.

9 (2) A district is strongly encouraged to honor the request of a
10 parent or guardian for his or her child to attend a school in another
11 district or the request of a parent or guardian for his or her child to
12 transfer as a student receiving home-based instruction.

13 (3) A district shall release a student to a nonresident district
14 that agrees to accept the student if:

15 (a) A financial, educational, safety, or health condition affecting
16 the student would likely be reasonably improved as a result of the
17 transfer; or

18 (b) Attendance at the school in the nonresident district is more
19 accessible to the parent's place of work or to the location of child
20 care; or

21 (c) There is a special hardship or detrimental condition; or

22 (d) The purpose of the transfer is for the student to enroll in an
23 online course or online school program offered by an online provider
24 approved under RCW 28A.250.020.

25 (4) A district may deny the request of a resident student to
26 transfer to a nonresident district if the release of the student would
27 adversely affect the district's existing desegregation plan. A school
28 district may not refuse to establish an interlocal agreement with a
29 nonresident school district for students to enroll in an online course
30 or online school program on a part-time basis in the nonresident school
31 district.

32 (5) For the purpose of helping a district assess the quality of its
33 education program, a resident school district may request an optional
34 exit interview or questionnaire with the parents or guardians of a
35 child transferring to another district. No parent or guardian may be
36 forced to attend such an interview or complete the questionnaire.

1 (6) Beginning with the 1993-94 school year, school districts may
2 not charge transfer fees or tuition for nonresident students enrolled
3 under subsection (3) of this section and RCW 28A.225.225.
4 Reimbursement of a high school district for cost of educating high
5 school pupils of a nonhigh school district shall not be deemed a
6 transfer fee as affecting the apportionment of current state school
7 funds.

8 **Sec. 10.** RCW 28A.225.225 and 2009 c 380 s 7 are each amended to
9 read as follows:

10 (1) Except for students who reside out-of-state and students under
11 RCW 28A.225.217, a district shall accept applications from nonresident
12 students who are the children of full-time certificated and classified
13 school employees, and those children shall be permitted to enroll:

14 (a) At the school to which the employee is assigned;

15 (b) At a school forming the district's K through 12 continuum which
16 includes the school to which the employee is assigned; or

17 (c) At a school in the district that provides early intervention
18 services pursuant to RCW 28A.155.065 or preschool services pursuant to
19 RCW 28A.155.070, if the student is eligible for such services.

20 (2) A district may reject applications under this section if:

21 (a) The student's disciplinary records indicate a history of
22 convictions for offenses or crimes, violent or disruptive behavior, or
23 gang membership;

24 (b) The student has been expelled or suspended from a public school
25 for more than ten consecutive days. Any policy allowing for
26 readmission of expelled or suspended students under this subsection
27 (2)(b) must apply uniformly to both resident and nonresident
28 applicants; (~~or~~)

29 (c) Enrollment of a child under this section would displace a child
30 who is a resident of the district, except that if a child is admitted
31 under subsection (1) of this section, that child shall be permitted to
32 remain enrolled at that school, or in that district's kindergarten
33 through twelfth grade continuum, until he or she has completed his or
34 her schooling; or

35 (d) The student has repeatedly failed to comply with requirements
36 for participation in an online school program, such as participating in
37 weekly direct contact with the teacher or monthly progress evaluations.

1 (3) Except as provided in subsection (1) of this section, all
2 districts accepting applications from nonresident students or from
3 students receiving home-based instruction for admission to the
4 district's schools shall consider equally all applications received.
5 Each school district shall adopt a policy establishing rational, fair,
6 and equitable standards for acceptance and rejection of applications by
7 June 30, 1990. The policy may include rejection of a nonresident
8 student if:

9 (a) Acceptance of a nonresident student would result in the
10 district experiencing a financial hardship;

11 (b) The student's disciplinary records indicate a history of
12 convictions for offenses or crimes, violent or disruptive behavior, or
13 gang membership; or

14 (c) The student has been expelled or suspended from a public school
15 for more than ten consecutive days. Any policy allowing for
16 readmission of expelled or suspended students under this subsection
17 (3)(c) must apply uniformly to both resident and nonresident
18 applicants.

19 For purposes of subsections (2)(a) and (3)(b) of this section,
20 "gang" means a group which: (i) Consists of three or more persons;
21 (ii) has identifiable leadership; and (iii) on an ongoing basis,
22 regularly conspires and acts in concert mainly for criminal purposes.

23 (4) A student who has been accepted to enroll in an online course
24 or online school program offered by an online provider approved under
25 RCW 28A.250.020 in a nonresident school district may remain enrolled in
26 that district in subsequent school years without being required to
27 reapply, unless the nonresident district determines that the student
28 has lost eligibility for enrollment due to one of the factors
29 enumerated in this section.

30 (5) The district shall provide to applicants written notification
31 of the approval or denial of the application in a timely manner. If
32 the application is rejected, the notification shall include the reason
33 or reasons for denial and the right to appeal under RCW 28A.225.230(3).

34 **Sec. 11.** RCW 28A.150.100 and 2011 1st sp.s. c 34 s 10 are each
35 amended to read as follows:

36 (1) For the purposes of this section and RCW 28A.150.410 and
37 28A.400.200, "basic education certificated instructional staff" means

1 all full-time equivalent classroom teachers, teacher librarians,
2 guidance counselors, certificated student health services staff, and
3 other certificated instructional staff in the following programs as
4 defined for statewide school district accounting purposes: Basic
5 education, secondary vocational education, general instructional
6 support, and general supportive services.

7 (2) Each school district shall maintain a ratio of at least forty-
8 six basic education certificated instructional staff to one thousand
9 annual average full-time equivalent students. This requirement does
10 not apply to that portion of a district's annual average full-time
11 equivalent enrollment that is enrolled in alternative learning
12 experience programs as defined in RCW 28A.150.325 (as recodified by
13 this act) or in online courses or online school programs as provided in
14 RCW 28A.150.262 (as recodified by this act).

15 **Sec. 12.** RCW 28A.520.020 and 2011 c 278 s 1 are each amended to
16 read as follows:

17 (1) There shall be a fund known as the federal forest revolving
18 account. The state treasurer, who shall be custodian of the revolving
19 account, shall deposit into the revolving account the funds for each
20 county received by the state in accordance with Title 16, section 500,
21 United States Code. The state treasurer shall distribute these moneys
22 to the counties according to the determined proportional area. The
23 county legislative authority shall expend fifty percent of the money
24 for the benefit of the public roads and other public purposes as
25 authorized by federal statute or public schools of such county and not
26 otherwise. Disbursements by the counties of the remaining fifty
27 percent of the money shall be as authorized by the superintendent of
28 public instruction, or the superintendent's designee, and shall occur
29 in the manner provided in subsection (2) of this section.

30 (2) No later than thirty days following receipt of the funds from
31 the federal government, the superintendent of public instruction shall
32 apportion moneys distributed to counties for schools to public school
33 districts in the respective counties in proportion to the number of
34 resident full-time equivalent students enrolled in each public school
35 district to the number of resident full-time equivalent students
36 enrolled in public schools in the county. In apportioning these funds,

1 the superintendent of public instruction shall utilize the October
2 enrollment count.

3 (3) If the amount received by any public school district pursuant
4 to subsection (2) of this section is less than the basic education
5 allocation to which the district would otherwise be entitled, the
6 superintendent of public instruction shall apportion to the district,
7 in the manner provided by RCW 28A.510.250, an amount which shall be the
8 difference between the amount received pursuant to subsection (2) of
9 this section and the basic education allocation to which the district
10 would otherwise be entitled.

11 (4) All federal forest funds shall be expended in accordance with
12 the requirements of Title 16, section 500, United States Code, as now
13 existing or hereafter amended.

14 (5) The definition of resident student for purposes of this section
15 shall be based on rules adopted by the superintendent of public
16 instruction, which shall consider and address the impact of alternative
17 learning experience students and students enrolled in online courses or
18 online school programs as provided in RCW 28A.150.262 (as recodified by
19 this act) on federal forest funds distribution.

20 **Sec. 13.** RCW 28A.525.162 and 2012 c 244 s 2 are each amended to
21 read as follows:

22 (1) Funds appropriated to the superintendent of public instruction
23 from the common school construction fund shall be allotted by the
24 superintendent of public instruction in accordance with this chapter.

25 (2) No allotment shall be made to a school district until such
26 district has provided local funds equal to or greater than the
27 difference between the total approved project cost and the amount of
28 state funding assistance to the district for financing the project
29 computed pursuant to RCW 28A.525.166, with the following exceptions:

30 (a) The superintendent of public instruction may waive the local
31 requirement for state funding assistance for districts which have
32 provided funds for school building construction purposes through the
33 authorization of bonds or through the authorization of excess tax
34 levies or both in an amount equivalent to two and one-half percent of
35 the value of its taxable property, as defined in RCW 39.36.015.

36 (b) No such local funds shall be required as a condition to the
37 allotment of funds from the state for the purpose of making major or

1 minor structural changes to existing school facilities in order to
2 bring such facilities into compliance with the barrier free access
3 requirements of section 504 of the federal rehabilitation act of 1973
4 (29 U.S.C. Sec. 706) and rules implementing the act.

5 (3) For the purpose of computing the state funding assistance
6 percentage under RCW 28A.525.166 when a school district is granted
7 authority to enter into contracts, adjusted valuation per pupil shall
8 be calculated using headcount student enrollments from the most recent
9 October enrollment reports submitted by districts to the superintendent
10 of public instruction, adjusted as follows:

11 (a) In the case of projects for which local bonds were approved
12 after May 11, 1989:

13 (i) For districts which have been designated as serving high school
14 districts under RCW 28A.540.110, students residing in the nonhigh
15 district so designating shall be excluded from the enrollment count if
16 the student is enrolled in any grade level not offered by the nonhigh
17 district;

18 (ii) The enrollment of nonhigh school districts shall be increased
19 by the number of students residing within the district who are enrolled
20 in a serving high school district so designated by the nonhigh school
21 district under RCW 28A.540.110, including only students who are
22 enrolled in grade levels not offered by the nonhigh school district;
23 and

24 (iii) The number of preschool students with disabilities included
25 in the enrollment count shall be multiplied by one-half;

26 (b) In the case of construction or modernization of high school
27 facilities in districts serving students from nonhigh school districts,
28 the adjusted valuation per pupil shall be computed using the combined
29 adjusted valuations and enrollments of each district, each weighted by
30 the percentage of the district's resident high school students served
31 by the high school district;

32 (c) The number of kindergarten students included in the enrollment
33 count shall be counted as one headcount student; and

34 (d) The number of students residing outside the school district who
35 are enrolled in alternative learning experience programs under RCW
36 28A.150.325 (as recodified by this act) or are enrolled in online
37 courses or online school programs as provided in RCW 28A.150.262 (as
38 recodified by this act) shall be excluded from the total.

1 (4) In lieu of the exclusion in subsection (3)(d) of this section,
2 a district may submit an alternative calculation for excluding students
3 enrolled in alternative learning experience programs. The alternative
4 calculation must show the student headcount use of district classroom
5 facilities on a regular basis for a regular duration by out-of-district
6 alternative learning experience program students subtracted by the
7 headcount of in-district alternative learning experience program
8 students not using district classroom facilities on a regular basis for
9 a reasonable duration. The alternative calculation must be submitted
10 in a form approved by the office of the superintendent of public
11 instruction. The office of the superintendent of public instruction
12 must develop rules to define "regular basis" and "reasonable duration."

13 (5) The superintendent of public instruction, considering policy
14 recommendations from the school facilities citizen advisory panel,
15 shall prescribe such rules as are necessary to equate insofar as
16 possible the efforts made by school districts to provide capital funds
17 by the means aforesaid.

18 (6) For the purposes of this section, "preschool students with
19 disabilities" means children of preschool age who have developmental
20 disabilities who are entitled to services under RCW 28A.155.010 through
21 28A.155.100 and are not included in the kindergarten enrollment count
22 of the district.

23 **Sec. 14.** RCW 28A.525.166 and 2012 c 244 s 3 are each amended to
24 read as follows:

25 Allocations to school districts of state funds provided by RCW
26 28A.525.162 through 28A.525.180 shall be made by the superintendent of
27 public instruction and the amount of state funding assistance to a
28 school district in financing a school plant project shall be determined
29 in the following manner:

30 (1) The boards of directors of the districts shall determine the
31 total cost of the proposed project, which cost may include the cost of
32 acquiring and preparing the site, the cost of constructing the building
33 or of acquiring a building and preparing the same for school use, the
34 cost of necessary equipment, taxes chargeable to the project, necessary
35 architects' fees, and a reasonable amount for contingencies and for
36 other necessary incidental expenses: PROVIDED, That the total cost of

1 the project shall be subject to review and approval by the
2 superintendent.

3 (2) The state funding assistance percentage for a school district
4 shall be computed by the following formula:

5 The ratio of the school district's adjusted valuation per pupil
6 divided by the ratio of the total state adjusted valuation per pupil
7 shall be subtracted from three, and then the result of the foregoing
8 shall be divided by three plus (the ratio of the school district's
9 adjusted valuation per pupil divided by the ratio of the total state
10 adjusted valuation per pupil).

11

	District adjusted	Total state	
	3-valuation	÷ adjusted valuation	
12	per pupil	per pupil	State
13	Computed		
14	State = $\frac{\text{District adjusted 3-valuation per pupil}}{\text{Total state adjusted valuation per pupil}} = - \% \text{ Funding}$		
15	Ratio	District adjusted	Total state
16		3+valuation	÷ adjusted valuation
17		per pupil	per pupil

18 PROVIDED, That in the event the state funding assistance percentage to
19 any school district based on the above formula is less than twenty
20 percent and such school district is otherwise eligible for state
21 funding assistance under RCW 28A.525.162 through 28A.525.180, the
22 superintendent may establish for such district a state funding
23 assistance percentage not in excess of twenty percent of the approved
24 cost of the project, if the superintendent finds that such additional
25 assistance is necessary to provide minimum facilities for housing the
26 pupils of the district.

27 (3) In addition to the computed state funding assistance percentage
28 developed in subsection (2) of this section, a school district shall be
29 entitled to additional percentage points determined by the average
30 percentage of growth for the past three years. One percent shall be
31 added to the computed state funding assistance percentage for each
32 percent of growth, with a maximum of twenty percent.

33 (4) In computing the state funding assistance percentage in
34 subsection (2) of this section and adjusting the percentage under
35 subsection (3) of this section, students residing outside the school
36 district who are enrolled in alternative learning experience programs
37 under RCW 28A.150.325 (as recodified by this act) or are enrolled in
38 online courses or online school programs as provided in RCW 28A.150.262

1 (as recodified by this act) shall be excluded from the count of total
2 pupils. In lieu of the exclusion in this subsection, a district may
3 submit an alternative calculation for excluding students enrolled in
4 alternative learning experience programs. The alternative calculation
5 must show the student headcount use of district classroom facilities on
6 a regular basis for a reasonable duration by out-of-district
7 alternative learning experience program students subtracted by the
8 headcount of in-district alternative learning experience program
9 students not using district classroom facilities on a regular basis for
10 a reasonable duration. The alternative calculation must be submitted
11 in a form approved by the office of the superintendent of public
12 instruction. The office of the superintendent of public instruction
13 must develop rules to define "regular basis" and "reasonable duration."

14 (5) The approved cost of the project determined in the manner
15 prescribed in this section multiplied by the state funding assistance
16 percentage derived as provided for in this section shall be the amount
17 of state funding assistance to the district for the financing of the
18 project: PROVIDED, That need therefor has been established to the
19 satisfaction of the superintendent: PROVIDED, FURTHER, That additional
20 state funding assistance may be allowed if it is found by the
21 superintendent, considering policy recommendations from the school
22 facilities citizen advisory panel that such assistance is necessary in
23 order to meet (a) a school housing emergency resulting from the
24 destruction of a school building by fire, the condemnation of a school
25 building by properly constituted authorities, a sudden excessive and
26 clearly foreseeable future increase in school population, or other
27 conditions similarly emergent in nature; or (b) a special school
28 housing burden resulting from projects of statewide significance or
29 imposed by virtue of the admission of nonresident students into
30 educational programs established, maintained and operated in conformity
31 with the requirements of law; or (c) a deficiency in the capital funds
32 of the district resulting from financing, subsequent to April 1, 1969,
33 and without benefit of the state funding assistance provided by prior
34 state assistance programs, the construction of a needed school building
35 project or projects approved in conformity with the requirements of
36 such programs, after having first applied for and been denied state
37 funding assistance because of the inadequacy of state funds available
38 for the purpose, or (d) a condition created by the fact that an

1 excessive number of students live in state owned housing, or (e) a need
2 for the construction of a school building to provide for improved
3 school district organization or racial balance, or (f) conditions
4 similar to those defined under (a), (b), (c), (d), and (e) of this
5 subsection, creating a like emergency.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 15.** RCW 28A.150.262 and 28A.150.325 are each
7 recodified as sections in chapter 28A.250 RCW.

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