
SENATE BILL 6209

State of Washington

63rd Legislature

2014 Regular Session

By Senators Dammeier, Frockt, Hill, Rolfes, Billig, Chase, and O'Ban

Read first time 01/17/14. Referred to Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to expanded learning opportunities; adding a new
2 chapter to Title 28A RCW; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that research
5 shows that summer learning loss contributes to the academic opportunity
6 gaps between students in Washington's schools and that falling behind
7 in academics can be a predictor of whether a student will drop out of
8 school. The legislature further finds that access to quality expanded
9 learning opportunities during the school year and summer helps mitigate
10 summer learning loss and improves academic performance, attendance, on-
11 time grade advancement, and classroom behaviors.

12 (2) The legislature intends to increase expanded learning
13 opportunities to improve educational outcomes and close the persistent
14 academic opportunity gaps between students. The legislature further
15 intends to build capacity, identify best practices, leverage local
16 resources, and promote a sustainable expanded learning opportunities
17 system for students in early elementary through secondary schools by
18 providing an ongoing work group and infrastructure that helps
19 coordinate expanded learning opportunity efforts throughout the state.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) "Expanded learning opportunities" means
2 structured, intentional, and creative learning environments outside the
3 traditional school day that build partnerships with schools, align in-
4 school and out-of-school learning, and create enriching experiences for
5 youth using activities that complement classroom-based instruction.
6 The opportunities may be provided before or after school, during the
7 summer, or as extended day, week, or year programs.

8 (2) Expanded learning opportunities are provided by community-based
9 organizations, which may include school-based, after school, youth
10 development, or faith-based organizations. The organizations shall
11 provide a range of culturally responsive enrichment and learning
12 activities, which may focus on academic and nonacademic areas; arts;
13 civic engagement; service-learning and science; technology,
14 engineering, and mathematics; and competencies for college and career
15 readiness and global citizenship.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) The expanded learning opportunities
17 council is established to advise the governor, state legislature, and
18 the superintendent of public instruction regarding an expanded learning
19 opportunities system.

20 (2) The council shall also provide a vision, guidance, assistance,
21 and advice to support an expanded learning opportunities system, as
22 well as other current or proposed programs and initiatives across the
23 spectrum of early elementary through secondary education so that the
24 needs and demands for a statewide coordinated system of expanded
25 learning opportunities are identified and an expanded learning
26 opportunities system is developed.

27 (3) The council shall identify fiscal, resource, and partnership
28 opportunities, coordinate policy development, set quality standards,
29 and develop a comprehensive expanded learning opportunities action plan
30 designed to implement expanded learning opportunities, address summer
31 learning loss, provide academic supports, build strong school-
32 community-based organization partnerships, and track performance of
33 expanded learning opportunities in closing the opportunity gap, so that
34 students receive maximum and direct benefit.

35 (4) When making recommendations regarding best practices, the
36 council shall consider the best practices on the state menus developed
37 in accordance with RCW 28A.165.035 and 28A.655.235.

1 (5) The governor's office, in consultation with the superintendent
2 of public instruction, shall convene the expanded learning
3 opportunities council. The members of the council must have experience
4 in expanded learning opportunities, and include groups and agencies
5 representing diverse student interests and geographical locations
6 across the state. Up to eighteen participants, agencies,
7 organizations, or individuals may be invited to participate in the
8 expanded learning opportunities council but the membership shall
9 include the following:

10 (a) Three representatives from nonprofit community-based
11 organizations;

12 (b) Two representatives from regional work force development
13 councils;

14 (c) One representative from each of the following organizations or
15 agencies:

16 (i) A nonprofit organization with statewide intermediary experience
17 in expanded learning opportunities frameworks;

18 (ii) The office of the superintendent of public instruction;

19 (iii) Twenty-first century community learning centers;

20 (iv) A Washington state parent-teacher association;

21 (v) School district community partnerships;

22 (vi) The Washington state institute for public policy or a state
23 public policy center with working knowledge of expanded learning
24 opportunities; and

25 (vii) Community and technical colleges; and

26 (d) A representative of four-year institutions of higher education
27 as defined in RCW 28B.10.016.

28 (6) Staff support for the expanded learning opportunity council
29 shall be provided by the governor's office and the office of financial
30 management with support from the office of the superintendent of public
31 instruction and other state agencies as necessary. Appointees of the
32 council shall be selected by May 30, 2014. The council shall hold its
33 first meeting before August 1, 2014. At the first meeting, the council
34 shall determine regularly scheduled meeting times and locations. The
35 council shall provide a report to the governor and the legislature by
36 December 1, 2014, and by December 1st annually thereafter.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** Sections 1 through 3 of this act constitute
2 a new chapter in Title 28A RCW.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** This act is necessary for the immediate
4 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
5 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
6 immediately.

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