

3SHB 1682 - S COMM AMD

By Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education

NOT CONSIDERED 03/03/2016

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

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that schools
4 are places of academic as well as personal enrichment and that
5 schools provide safety, stability, support, and relationships
6 necessary to help students succeed. These resources are vitally
7 necessary for tens of thousands of students in Washington with no
8 permanent home who often struggle in school because they are worried
9 about where their families are staying night after night.

10 (2) The legislature also recognizes the population of homeless
11 students disproportionately includes students of color.

12 (3) The intent of the legislature is to start a competitive grant
13 system for high-need school districts and to supplement federal
14 McKinney-Vento Act dollars to ensure homeless students continue
15 attending the same schools, maintain housing stability, and improve
16 academic achievement.

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

19 (1) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall
20 create a competitive grant process to evaluate and award state-funded
21 three-year grants to school districts to increase identification of
22 homeless students and the capacity of the districts to provide
23 support, which may include education liaisons, for homeless
24 students. The process must complement any similar federal grant
25 program or programs in order to minimize agency overhead and
26 administrative costs for the superintendent of public instruction and
27 school districts. School districts may access both federal and state
28 funding to identify and support homeless students.

29 (2) Award criteria for the state grants must be based on the
30 demonstrated need of the school district and may consider the number
31 or overall percentage, or both, of homeless children and youths

1 enrolled in preschool, elementary, and secondary schools in the
2 school district, and the ability of the local school district to meet
3 these needs. Award criteria for these must also be based on the
4 quality of the applications submitted. Preference must be given to
5 districts that demonstrate a commitment to serving the needs of
6 unaccompanied youth.

7 (3) Districts receiving grants must measure during the academic
8 year how often each student physically moves, what services families
9 or unaccompanied youth could access, and whether or not a family or
10 unaccompanied youth received stable housing by the end of the school
11 year.

12 (4) Homeless students are defined as students without a fixed,
13 regular, and adequate nighttime residence as set forth in the federal
14 McKinney-Vento homeless education assistance act (P.L. 100-77; 101
15 Stat. 482).

16 (5) School districts may not use funds allocated under this
17 section to supplant existing federal, state, or local resources for
18 homeless student supports, which may include education liaisons.

19 **NEW SECTION.** **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 43.185C
20 RCW to read as follows:

21 (1) Subject to funds appropriated for this specific purpose, the
22 department, in consultation with the office of the superintendent of
23 public instruction, shall administer a grant program that links
24 homeless students and their families with stable housing located in
25 the homeless student's school district. The goal of the program is to
26 provide educational stability for homeless students by promoting
27 housing stability.

28 (2) The department, working with the office of the superintendent
29 of public instruction, shall develop a competitive grant process to
30 make grant awards to school districts partnered with eligible
31 organizations on implementation of the proposal. For the purposes of
32 this subsection, "eligible organization" means any local government,
33 local housing authority, regional support network established under
34 chapter 71.24 RCW, nonprofit community or neighborhood-based
35 organization, federally recognized Indian tribe in the state of
36 Washington, or regional or statewide nonprofit housing assistance
37 organization. Applications for the grant program must include
38 contractual agreements between the housing providers and school

1 districts defining the responsibilities and commitments of each party
2 to identify, house, and support homeless students.

3 (3) In determining which partnerships will receive grants,
4 preference must be given to districts with a demonstrated commitment
5 of partnership and history with eligible organizations.

6 (4) Activities eligible for assistance under this grant program
7 include but are not limited to:

8 (a) Rental assistance, which includes utilities, security and
9 utility deposits, first and last month's rent, rental application
10 fees, moving expenses, and other eligible expenses to be determined
11 by the department;

12 (b) Transportation assistance, including gasoline assistance for
13 families with vehicles and bus passes;

14 (c) Emergency shelter; and

15 (d) Housing stability case management.

16 (5) All beneficiaries of funds from the grant program must be
17 unaccompanied youth or from very low-income households. For the
18 purposes of this subsection, "very low-income household" means an
19 unaccompanied youth or family or unrelated persons living together
20 whose adjusted income is less than fifty percent of the median family
21 income, adjusted for household size, for the county where the grant
22 recipient is located.

23 (6)(a) Grantee school districts must compile information and
24 report to the legislature the findings of the grantee, the housing
25 stability of the homeless families, the academic performance of the
26 grantee population, and any related policy recommendations.

27 (b) Data on all program participants must be entered into and
28 tracked through the Washington homeless client management information
29 system as described in RCW 43.185C.180.

30 (7) In order to ensure that school districts are meeting the
31 requirements of an approved program for homeless students, the office
32 of the superintendent of public instruction shall monitor the
33 programs at least once every two years. Monitoring shall begin during
34 the 2016-17 school year.

35 (8) Any program review and monitoring under this section may be
36 conducted concurrently with other program reviews and monitoring
37 conducted by the department. In its review, the office of the
38 superintendent of public instruction shall monitor program components
39 that include but need not be limited to the process used by the
40 district to identify and reach out to homeless students, assessment

1 data and other indicators to determine how well the district is
2 meeting the academic needs of homeless students, district
3 expenditures used to expand opportunities for these students, and the
4 academic progress of students under the program.

5 **Sec. 4.** RCW 28A.300.540 and 2015 c 69 s 28 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (1) For the purposes of this section, "unaccompanied homeless
8 student" means a student who is not in the physical custody of a
9 parent or guardian and is homeless as defined in RCW 43.330.702(2).

10 (2) By December 31, 2010, the office of the superintendent of
11 public instruction shall establish a uniform process designed to
12 track the additional expenditures for transporting homeless students,
13 including expenditures required under the McKinney Vento act,
14 reauthorized as Title X, Part C, of the no child left behind act,
15 P.L. 107-110, in January 2002. Once established, the superintendent
16 shall adopt the necessary administrative rules to direct each school
17 district to adopt and use the uniform process and track these
18 expenditures. The superintendent shall post on the superintendent's
19 web site total expenditures related to the transportation of homeless
20 students.

21 (3)(a) By January 10, 2015, and every odd-numbered year
22 thereafter, the office of the superintendent of public instruction
23 shall report to the governor and the legislature the following data
24 for homeless students:

25 (i) The number of identified homeless students enrolled in public
26 schools;

27 (ii) The number of identified unaccompanied homeless students
28 enrolled in public schools, which number shall be included for each
district and the state under "student demographics" on the Washington
state report card web site;

31 (iii) The number of identified homeless students of color;

32 (iv) The number of students participating in the learning
33 assistance program under chapter 28A.165 RCW, the highly capable
34 program under chapter 28A.185 RCW, and the running start program
35 under chapter 28A.600 RCW; and

36 (((iv))) (v) The academic performance and educational outcomes of
37 homeless students and unaccompanied homeless students, including but
38 not limited to the following performance and educational outcomes:

1 (A) Student scores on the statewide administered academic
2 assessments;

3 (B) English language proficiency;

4 (C) Dropout rates;

5 (D) Four-year adjusted cohort graduation rate;

6 (E) Five-year adjusted cohort graduation rate;

7 (F) Absenteeism rates;

8 (G) Truancy rates, if available; and

9 (H) Suspension and expulsion data.

10 (b) The data reported under this subsection (3) must include
11 state and district-level information and must be disaggregated by at
12 least the following subgroups of students: White, Black, Hispanic,
13 American Indian/Alaskan Native, Asian, Pacific Islander/Hawaiian
14 Native, low income, transitional bilingual, migrant, special
15 education, and gender.

16 (4) By July 1, 2014, the office of the superintendent of public
17 instruction in collaboration with experts from community
18 organizations on homelessness and homeless education policy, shall
19 develop or acquire a short video that provides information on how to
20 identify signs that indicate a student may be homeless, how to
21 provide services and support to homeless students, and why this
22 identification and support is critical to student success. The video
23 must be posted on the superintendent of public instruction's web
24 site.

25 (5) By July 1, 2014, the office of the superintendent of public
26 instruction shall adopt and distribute to each school district, best
27 practices for choosing and training school district-designated
28 homeless student liaisons.

29 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.320
30 RCW to read as follows:

31 Each school district that has identified more than ten
32 unaccompanied youth must establish a building point of contact in
33 each middle school and high school. These points of contact must be
34 appointed by the principal of the designated school and are
35 responsible for identifying homeless and unaccompanied youth and
36 connecting them with the school district's homeless student liaison.
37 The school district homeless student liaison is responsible for
38 training building points of contact.

1 **NEW SECTION.** **Sec. 6.** This act may be known and cited as the
2 homeless student stability and opportunity gap act.

3 **NEW SECTION.** **Sec. 7.** (1) The sum of one million dollars, or as
4 much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the fiscal year
5 ending June 30, 2017, from the general fund to the office of the
6 superintendent of public instruction for the purposes of section 2 of
7 this act.

8 (2) The sum of one million dollars, or as much thereof as may be
9 necessary, is appropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018,
10 from the general fund to the office of the superintendent of public
11 instruction for the purposes of section 2 of this act."

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12 On page 1, line 3 of the title, after "services;" strike the
13 remainder of the title and insert "amending RCW 28A.300.540; adding a
14 new section to chapter 28A.300 RCW; adding a new section to chapter
15 43.185C RCW; adding a new section to chapter 28A.320 RCW; creating
16 new sections; and making appropriations."

EFFECT: Removes the reference to the amount of grant awards
related to housing.

Removes the reference to the number of schools that could receive
grant awards related to housing.

Changes "school districts" to "partnerships" for the provision
describing the preference that should be given for the grant awards
related to housing.

Removes the null and void clause for the grant awards related to
housing and inserts an appropriations clause for the grant awards
related to identification and support of homeless students.

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