SSB 6620 – S AMD **916**
    By Senator Frockt

1   On page 11, after line 29, insert the following:

2   "**Part VI - School-Based Mental Health Counselor Grant Program**

3   NEW SECTION. **Sec. 14.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.300
4   RCW to read as follows:
5   (1) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this
6   specific purpose, the office of the superintendent of public
7   instruction shall create a grant program and award grants to school
8   districts to employ school-based mental health counselors to improve
9   school safety.
10   (2) Mental health counselors must be licensed by the state under
11   chapter 18.225 RCW and may only work within the scope of their
12   license.
13   (3) The office of the superintendent of public instruction must
14   identify criteria for awarding the grants, evaluate the applicants,
15   and award grant money. The award criteria must include a requirement
16   that a school district applicant must demonstrate a need for school-
17   based mental health services.

18   NEW SECTION. **Sec. 15.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.410
19   RCW to read as follows:
20   (1) The Washington professional educator standards board shall
21   review how the role of school-based mental health counselors differ
22   from school counselors, psychologists, and social workers, which are
23   positions certified by the board.
24   (2) By November 1, 2018, the board must make recommendations on
25   whether school-based mental health counselors should be certified by
26   the board and potential certification requirements.
27   (3) This section expires August 1, 2019."

28   Renumber the remaining parts and sections consecutively and
29   correct any internal references accordingly.

1   On page 1, line 10 of the title, after "rifles;" strike "and" and
2 after "funds;" insert "and creating a mental health services grant
3 program;"

4   On page 1, line 17 of the title, after "28A.310 RCW;" insert
5 "adding a new section to chapter 28A.410 RCW;"

6   On page 1, line 18 of the title, after "providing" strike "an
7 expiration date" and insert "expiration dates"

      EFFECT: Adds a school-based mental health counselor grant program
and directs the Professional Educator Standards Board to make
recommendations regarding future certification.

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