

SHB 1915 - S AMD 752
By Senator Wellman

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

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature recognizes that
4 acquiring and applying a basic knowledge of personal finance is
5 critical to the economic well-being of all adults. Without this
6 knowledge, persons are much less well equipped to navigate the
7 complicated financial issues of modern life, including household
8 budgets, consumer debt, loan applications and obligations, and
9 successful retirement planning.

10 (2) The legislature also recognizes that it has taken meaningful
11 steps to support financial education instruction in public schools,
12 including establishing the financial education public-private
13 partnership in 2004, adopting financial education learning standards
14 in 2015, and providing funds in 2022 for financial education
15 professional development for certificated staff.

16 (3) In recognition of the relevance and importance of personal
17 finance knowledge, the ongoing efforts of the financial education
18 public-private partnership, and the ability of public schools to
19 teach or continue teaching financial education instruction, the
20 legislature intends to ensure that all Washington students are
21 provided financial education instruction. Therefore, the legislature
22 intends to make financial education instruction a required component
23 of public education while maximizing flexibility for school districts
24 to implement the instruction in a manner that recognizes their local
25 circumstances.

26 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.300.468 and 2015 c 211 s 4 are each amended to
27 read as follows:

28 ((~~(1)~~)) After consulting with the financial education public-
29 private partnership, the office of the superintendent of public
30 instruction shall make available to all school districts a list of
31 instructional materials that align with the financial education

1 learning standards ((integrated into the state learning standards
2 pursuant to RCW 28A.300.460(2)(d)).

3 ~~(2) School districts shall provide all students in grades nine
4 through twelve the opportunity to access the financial education
5 standards, whether through a regularly scheduled class period; before
6 or after school; during lunch periods; at library and study time; at
7 home; via online learning opportunities; through career and technical
8 education course equivalencies; or other opportunities. School
9 districts shall publicize the availability of financial education
10 opportunities to students and their families. School districts are
11 encouraged to grant credit toward high school graduation to students
12 who successfully complete financial education courses)) adopted in
13 RCW 28A.300.469.~~

14 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. A new section is added to chapter 28A.230
15 RCW to read as follows:

16 (1)(a) Beginning in or before the 2027-28 school year, each
17 school district that operates a high school shall provide all high
18 school students with access to no less than one-half credit of
19 financial education instruction.

20 (b) The content and instruction required by this subsection (1)
21 may be provided in stand-alone courses or embedded into other courses
22 and subject areas.

23 (c) Instruction provided in accordance with this subsection (1)
24 must conform with the state financial education learning standards
25 adopted in RCW 28A.300.469.

26 (2)(a) By December 15, 2025, school districts shall submit to the
27 state board of education and the financial education public-private
28 partnership established in RCW 28A.300.450:

29 (i) A list of the financial education instruction courses
30 implemented for students during or prior to the 2024-25 school year;
31 and

32 (ii) A description of the school district actions and other
33 considerations necessary to implement this section.

34 (b) The financial education public-private partnership shall
35 analyze the information provided under (a) of this subsection and
36 create a statewide implementation plan for the requirements of this
37 section. The plan, which must be submitted to the office of the
38 superintendent of public instruction, the state board of education,
39 and, in accordance with RCW 43.01.036, the appropriate committees of

1 the legislature by September 30, 2026, may include recommendations
2 for additional funding for grants to integrate financial literacy
3 education into professional development for certificated staff and
4 other school district resources in accordance with submissions
5 provided under (a) of this subsection.

6 (3) Beginning no later than the 2027-28 school year, school
7 districts shall publicize the offering of financial education
8 instruction to students and their parents or legal guardians.

9 (4)(a) The state board of education shall review and monitor
10 financial education offerings to ensure school district compliance
11 with the requirements of subsection (1)(a) of this section. The
12 reviews and monitoring required by this subsection (4) may be
13 conducted concurrently with other oversight and monitoring conducted
14 by the state board of education.

15 (b) The state board of education, in accordance with RCW
16 43.01.036, shall provide a summary of the information collected under
17 this subsection (4) for school years 2027-28 and 2028-29 to the
18 appropriate committees of the legislature by January 10, 2030.

19 (5) This section governs school operation and management under
20 RCW 28A.710.040 and 28A.715.020, and applies to charter schools
21 established under chapter 28A.710 RCW and state-tribal education
22 compact schools subject to chapter 28A.715 RCW to the same extent as
23 it applies to school districts."

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24 On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "education;" strike the
25 remainder of the title and insert "amending RCW 28A.300.468; adding a
26 new section to chapter 28A.230 RCW; and creating a new section."

EFFECT: Removes language relating to establishing a requirement
that each student graduating from a public high school must earn no
less than one-half credit of financial education instruction
beginning with the graduating class of 2031.

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