
SENATE BILL 5022

State of Washington

52nd Legislature

1991 Regular Session

By Senators Gaspard, Bailey, Rinehart, von Reichbauer, Murray, Conner and Erwin.

Read first time January 15, 1991. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to the Washington award for excellence in education
2 program; amending RCW 28A.625.030, 28A.625.050, and 28A.625.060;
3 reenacting and amending RCW 28A.625.020; adding new sections to chapter
4 28A.625 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 28B.80 RCW; repealing RCW
5 28A.625.040, 28A.625.070, and 28B.15.547; and declaring an emergency.

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

7 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.625.020 and 1990 c 77 s 1 and 1990 c 33 s 514 are
8 each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

9 ((1)) The superintendent of public instruction shall establish an
10 annual award program for excellence in education to recognize teachers,
11 principals, administrators, classified staff, school district
12 superintendents, and school boards for their leadership, contributions,
13 and commitment to education. The program shall recognize annually:

1 ~~((a))~~ (1) Five teachers from each congressional district of the
2 state. One individual must be an elementary level teacher, one must be
3 a junior high or middle school level teacher, and one must be a
4 secondary level teacher. Teachers shall include educational staff
5 associates;

6 ~~((b))~~ (2) Five principals or administrators from the state;

7 ~~((c))~~ (3) One school district superintendent from the state;

8 ~~((d))~~ (4) One school district board of directors from the state;

9 and

10 ~~((e))~~ (5) Three classified staff from each congressional district
11 of the state.

12 ~~((Not more than three teachers, three classified staff, and three
13 principals or administrators from each congressional district and one
14 superintendent and one school board from the state may be recognized
15 and receive awards in any school year.~~

16 ~~(2) The awards for teachers, classified staff, and principals or
17 administrators shall include certificates presented by the governor and
18 the superintendent of public instruction at a public ceremony or
19 ceremonies in appropriate locations.~~

20 ~~(3) In addition to certificates under subsection (2) of this
21 section, awards for teachers and principals or administrators shall
22 include:~~

23 ~~(a) A waiver of tuition and fees under RCW 28B.15.547 and a stipend
24 not to exceed one thousand dollars to cover costs incurred in taking
25 courses for which the tuition and fees have been waived under this
26 subsection and RCW 28B.15.547. The stipend shall not be considered
27 compensation for the purposes of RCW 28A.400.200; or~~

28 ~~(b) Teachers and principals or administrators, at their discretion,
29 may elect to forego the waiver of tuition and fees and the stipend
30 under subsection (3) of this section and apply for a grant not to~~

1 exceed one thousand dollars, which grant shall be awarded under the
2 provisions of RCW 28A.625.060. Within one year of receiving the award
3 for excellence in education, teachers and principals or administrators
4 shall notify the superintendent of public instruction in writing of
5 their decision to apply for a grant or to receive the waiver of tuition
6 and fees and the stipend under subsection (3) of this section.)

7 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.625.030 and 1986 c 147 s 3 are each amended to
8 read as follows:

9 The award for teachers under the Washington award for excellence in
10 education program shall be named the "Christa McAuliffe Award, in honor
11 and memory of Sharon Christa Corrigan McAuliffe." As the first teacher
12 and private citizen selected nationally to voyage into space, Christa
13 McAuliffe exemplified what is exciting and positive about the teaching
14 profession. Her contributions within the scope of the nation's
15 education system helped to show that education can and should be a
16 vital and dynamic experience for all participants. Christa McAuliffe's
17 chosen profession encompasses learning by discovery and her desire to
18 make new discoveries was reflected by her participation in the nation's
19 space program.

20 The selection of Christa McAuliffe as the first teacher in space
21 was directly linked to Washington state in that then superintendent of
22 public instruction Dr. Frank Brouillet both appointed and served as a
23 member of the national panel which selected Christa McAuliffe.

24 The tragic loss of the life of Christa McAuliffe on the flight of
25 the space shuttle Challenger on January 28, 1986, will be remembered
26 through the legacy she gave to her family, friends, relatives,
27 students, colleagues, the education profession, and the nation: a
28 model example of striving toward excellence.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.625

2 RCW to read as follows:

3 (1) All recipients of the Washington award for excellence in
4 education shall receive a certificate presented by the governor and the
5 superintendent of public instruction, or their designated
6 representatives, at a public ceremony or ceremonies in appropriate
7 locations.

8 (2) In addition to certificates under subsection (1) of this
9 section, awards for teachers and principals or administrators shall
10 include one of the following:

11 (a) Except as provided under section 7(1) of this act, an academic
12 grant which shall be used to take courses at a state institution of
13 higher education. The academic grant shall not exceed the current
14 full-time equivalent resident graduate tuition for courses taken at one
15 of the state's research universities and shall not exceed the current
16 full-time resident graduate tuition for courses taken at one of the
17 state's regional universities or The Evergreen State College. The
18 academic grant shall not be considered compensation for the purposes of
19 RCW 28A.400.200; or

20 (b) A recognition stipend not to exceed one thousand dollars. The
21 stipend shall not be considered compensation for the purposes of RCW
22 28A.400.200; or

23 (c) An educational grant not to exceed one thousand dollars. The
24 educational grant shall be awarded under RCW 28A.625.060 and shall not
25 be considered compensation for the purposes of RCW 28A.400.200.

26 (3) In addition to certificates under subsection (1) of this
27 section, the award for the superintendent shall include one of the
28 following:

1 (a) A recognition stipend not to exceed one thousand dollars. The
2 stipend shall not be considered compensation for the purposes of RCW
3 28A.400.200; or

4 (b) An educational grant not to exceed one thousand dollars. The
5 educational grant shall be awarded under RCW 28A.625.060 and shall not
6 be considered compensation for the purposes of RCW 28A.400.200.

7 (4) In addition to certificates under subsection (1) of this
8 section, the award for the school board shall include an educational
9 grant not to exceed two thousand five hundred dollars. The educational
10 grant shall be awarded under RCW 28A.625.060.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.625
12 RCW to read as follows:

13 Courses paid for under section 3(2)(a) of this act shall be
14 completed within four years after the academic grant is received.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.625
16 RCW to read as follows:

17 Nothing in sections 4 through 6 and 7 of this act prohibits a
18 recipient of the Christa McAuliffe award from transferring the academic
19 grant under section 3(2)(a) of this act to another certificated
20 instructional staff member. Any such transfer obligates the transferee
21 to the conditions of sections 4 and 7 of this act.

22 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.625
23 RCW to read as follows:

24 Teachers and principals or administrators who receive a Washington
25 award for excellence in education shall receive thirty clock hours
26 toward the one hundred fifty clock hours of continuing education

1 required every five years by the state board of education. The
2 provisions of this section are nontransferable.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.80 RCW
4 to read as follows:

5 (1) Teachers and principals or administrators who select an
6 academic grant under section 3(2)(a) of this act shall use the grant to
7 attend a state institution of higher education. The academic grant may
8 be used for courses at an independent college or university in this
9 state subject to the following requirements:

10 (a) "Independent college or university" means a private, nonprofit
11 educational institution, the main campus of which is permanently
12 situated in the state, open to residents of the state, and accredited
13 by the northwest association of schools and colleges, and other
14 institutions as may be developed that are approved by the higher
15 education coordinating board as meeting equivalent standards as those
16 institutions accredited under this section;

17 (b) The academic grant shall not exceed, on a yearly basis, the
18 yearly, full-time, resident, graduate tuition and services and
19 activities fees in effect at the state-funded research universities;

20 (c) The academic grant shall be contingent upon the private
21 institution matching on at least a dollar-for-dollar basis, either with
22 actual money or by waiver of fees, the amount of the academic grant
23 received by the recipient from the state; and

24 (d) The academic grant may not be used toward any theological
25 courses.

26 (2) Teachers and principals or administrators who select an
27 academic grant under section 3(2)(a) of this act may use the grant for
28 courses at a public or private higher education institution in another
29 state or country subject to the following conditions:

1 (a) The institution has an exchange program with a public or
2 private higher education institution in Washington and the exchange
3 program is approved or recognized by the higher education coordinating
4 board; or

5 (b) The institution is accredited by an accrediting association
6 recognized by the higher education coordinating board; and

7 (c) The recipient of the Washington award for excellence in
8 education shall submit in writing to the higher education coordinating
9 board an explanation of why the preferred course or courses are not
10 available at a public or private institution in Washington.

11 (3) All academic grants awarded under section 3(2)(a) of this act
12 shall be administered by the higher education coordinating board. The
13 board shall adopt rules under chapter 34.05 RCW providing for the
14 disbursement of the academic grants and any repayments from recipients who
15 do not meet the obligations of the academic grants.

16 **Sec. 8.** RCW 28A.625.050 and 1990 c 33 s 516 are each amended to
17 read as follows:

18 The superintendent of public instruction shall adopt rules under
19 chapter 34.05 RCW to carry out the purposes of RCW 28A.625.010 through
20 28A.625.070. These rules shall include establishing the selection
21 criteria for the Washington award for excellence in education program.
22 The superintendent (~~(of public instruction)~~) is encouraged to consult
23 with teachers, educational staff associates, principals,
24 administrators, classified employees, superintendents, and school board
25 members in developing the selection criteria. Notwithstanding the
26 provisions of RCW 28A.625.020(1) (~~((a) and (b))~~) and (2), such rules
27 may allow for the selection of individuals whose teaching or
28 administrative duties, or both, may encompass multiple grade level or
29 building assignments, or both.

1 **Sec. 9.** RCW 28A.625.060 and 1990 c 33 s 517 are each amended to
2 read as follows:

3 Teachers ~~((and))~~, principals or administrators, and superintendents
4 who have received an award for excellence in education ~~((under RCW~~
5 ~~28A.625.020 shall be eligible))~~ and choose to apply for an educational
6 grant ~~((in lieu of receiving a waiver of tuition and fees and a stipend~~
7 ~~as provided under RCW 28A.625.020(3)).~~ ~~The superintendent of public~~
8 ~~instruction))~~ under section 3 of this act shall ((award)) be awarded
9 the grant by the superintendent of public instruction as long as a
10 written grant application is submitted to the superintendent ~~((of~~
11 ~~public instruction))~~ within one year after the award was received. The
12 grant application shall identify the educational purpose toward which
13 the grant shall be used.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 10.** The following acts or parts of acts are
15 each repealed:

- 16 (1) RCW 28A.625.040 and 1990 c 33 s 515 & 1986 c 147 s 4;
17 (2) RCW 28A.625.070 and 1990 c 33 s 518 & 1986 c 147 s 8; and
18 (3) RCW 28B.15.547 and 1986 c 147 s 6.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 11.** This act is necessary for the immediate
20 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
21 state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take
22 effect immediately.