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SENATE BILL 6327

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State of Washington

52nd Legislature

1992 Regular Session

By Senators Gaspard, Bailey, Johnson, Jesernig, Murray, Pelz, Anderson, von Reichbauer, Skratek, McMullen, Bauer, Erwin, Rinehart and Roach

Read first time 01/27/92. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to the award for excellence in education program;  
2 and amending RCW 28A.625.041, 28B.80.255, and 28A.625.060.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.625.041 and 1991 c 255 s 3 are each amended to  
5 read as follows:

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

11 (2) In addition to certificates under subsection (1) of this  
12 section, awards for teachers, classified employees, and principals or  
13 administrators shall include one of the following:

1 (a) Except as provided under RCW 28B.80.255, an academic grant  
2 which shall be used to take courses at a state institution of higher  
3 education. The academic grant shall not exceed the current academic  
4 year full-time resident graduate tuition for courses taken at one of  
5 the state's research universities and shall not exceed the current  
6 academic year full-time resident graduate tuition for courses taken at  
7 one of the state's regional universities or The Evergreen State  
8 College. The academic grant shall not be considered compensation for  
9 the purposes of RCW 28A.400.200; or

10 (b) A recognition stipend not to exceed one thousand dollars. The  
11 stipend shall not be considered compensation for the purposes of RCW  
12 28A.400.200; or

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

16 (3) In addition to certificates under subsection (1) of this  
17 section, the award for the superintendent shall include one of the  
18 following:

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

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

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

29 (5) Within one year of receiving the Washington award for  
30 excellence in education, teachers, classified employees, principals or

1 administrators, and the school district superintendent shall notify the  
2 superintendent of public instruction in writing of their decision to  
3 apply for an academic grant, a recognition stipend, or an educational  
4 grant as provided under subsections (2) and (3) of this section. The  
5 superintendent shall notify the higher education coordinating board of  
6 those recipients who select the academic grant.

7       **Sec. 2.** RCW 28B.80.255 and 1991 c 255 s 6 are each amended to read  
8 as follows:

9       (1) Teachers, classified employees, and principals or  
10 administrators who select an academic grant under RCW 28A.625.041(2)(a)  
11 shall use the grant to attend a state public institution of higher  
12 education located in the state of Washington, except that the academic  
13 grant may be used for courses at a private institution of higher  
14 education in the state of Washington if the conditions in subsection  
15 (3) of this section are met, and the academic grant may be used for  
16 courses at a public or a private institution of higher education in  
17 another state or country if the conditions in subsection (4) of this  
18 section are met.

19       (2) "Institution of higher education" means:

20       (a) Any public university, college, community college, or  
21 vocational-technical institute operated by the state of Washington or  
22 any political subdivision thereof; or

23       (b) Any other university, college, school, or institute in the  
24 state of Washington offering instruction beyond the high school level  
25 which is a member institution of an accrediting association recognized  
26 by rule of the board. Any institution, branch, extension, or facility  
27 operating within the state of Washington which is affiliated with an  
28 institution operating in another state must be a separately accredited

1 member institution of an accrediting association recognized by the  
2 board.

3 (3) Teachers, classified employees, and principals or  
4 administrators who select an academic grant under RCW 28A.625.041(2)(a)  
5 may use the grant for courses at any private institution as defined in  
6 subsection (2)(b) of this section subject to the following conditions:

7 (a) The academic grant shall not exceed the current academic year  
8 full-time resident graduate tuition and the services and activities  
9 fees in effect at the state-funded research universities;

10 (b) The academic grant shall be contingent on the private  
11 institution matching on at least a dollar-for-dollar basis, either with  
12 actual money or by waiver of fees, the amount of the academic grant  
13 received by the recipient from the state; and

14 (c) The academic grant may not be used for any courses that include  
15 any religious worship or exercise, or apply to any degree in religious,  
16 seminarian, or theological academic studies.

17 (4) Teachers, classified employees, and principals or  
18 administrators who select an academic grant under RCW 28A.625.041(2)(a)  
19 may use the grant for courses at a public or private higher education  
20 institution in another state or country subject to the following  
21 conditions:

22 (a) The institution has an exchange program with a public or  
23 private higher education institution in Washington and the exchange  
24 program is approved or recognized by the higher education coordinating  
25 board; or

26 (b) The institution is approved or recognized by the higher  
27 education coordinating board; and

28 (c) The recipient of the Washington award for excellence in  
29 education has submitted in writing to the higher education coordinating

1 board an explanation of why the preferred course or courses are not  
2 available at a public or private institution in Washington; and

3 (d) The academic grant may not be used for any courses that include  
4 any religious worship or exercise, or apply to any degree in religious,  
5 seminarian, or theological academic studies.

6 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28A.625.060 and 1991 c 255 s 9 are each amended to  
7 read as follows:

8 Teachers, classified employees, principals or administrators, and  
9 superintendents who have received an award for excellence in education  
10 and choose to apply for an educational grant under RCW 28A.625.041  
11 shall be awarded the grant by the superintendent of public instruction  
12 as long as a written grant application is submitted to the  
13 superintendent within one year after the award was received. The grant  
14 application shall identify the educational purpose toward which the  
15 grant shall be used.