

2 **E2SHB 2909** - S AMD - 240
3 By Senators McAuliffe and Johnson

4 ADOPTED 2/29/96

5 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
6 following:

7 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.300
8 RCW to read as follows:

9 (1) The center for the improvement of student learning, or its
10 designee, shall develop and implement a process for identifying
11 programs that have been proven to be effective based upon valid
12 research in teaching elementary students to read. Additional programs
13 shall be reviewed after the initial identification of effective
14 programs.

15 (2) In identifying effective reading programs, the center for the
16 improvement of student learning, or its designee, shall consult primary
17 education teachers, state-wide reading organizations, institutions of
18 higher education, the commission on student learning, parents,
19 legislators, and other appropriate individuals and organizations.

20 (3) In identifying effective reading programs, the following
21 criteria shall be used:

22 (a) Whether the program will help the student meet the state-level
23 and classroom-based assessments for reading;

24 (b) Whether the program has achieved documented results for
25 students on valid and reliable assessments;

26 (c) Whether the results of the program have been replicated at
27 different locations over a period of time;

28 (d) Whether the requirements and specifications for implementing
29 the program are clear so that potential users can clearly determine the
30 requirements of the program and how to implement it;

31 (e) Whether, when considering the cost of implementing the program,
32 the program is cost-effective relative to other similar types of
33 programs;

34 (f) Whether the program addresses differing student populations;
35 and

36 (g) Other appropriate criteria and considerations.

1 (4) The initial identification of effective reading programs shall
2 be completed and a list of the identified programs prepared by December
3 31, 1996.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The superintendent of public instruction
5 shall establish a grant program to provide incentives for teachers,
6 schools, and school districts to use the identified programs on the
7 approved list in grades kindergarten through four. Schools, school
8 districts, and educational service districts may apply for grants.
9 Funds for the grants shall be used for in-service training and
10 instructional materials. Grants shall be awarded and funds distributed
11 not later than June 30, 1997, for programs in the 1996-97 and 1997-98
12 school years. Priority shall be given to grant applications involving
13 schools and school districts with the lowest mean percentile scores on
14 the state-wide fourth grade assessment required under RCW 28A.230.190
15 among grant applicants.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) The center for the improvement of student
17 learning in collaboration with the commission on student learning and
18 in consultation with the state board of education, faculty in educator
19 preparation programs, educators, parents, and school directors, shall
20 establish training programs in reading instruction and assessment for
21 educators in the primary grades. The programs shall be designed to
22 prepare educators to use the classroom-based assessments developed by
23 the commission on student learning to determine how children are
24 reading, select and implement appropriate instructional strategies and
25 effective programs consistent with section 1 of this act to improve
26 reading instruction, and to involve parents in helping their children
27 to learn to read. Funds shall be used to develop the training program
28 and to provide the training to the educators both through institutes
29 and in the classroom during the school year.

30 (2) This section shall expire June 30, 1998.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.300
32 RCW to read as follows:

33 (1) After effective programs have been identified in accordance
34 with section 1 of this act, the center for the improvement of student
35 learning, or its designee, shall provide information and take other
36 appropriate steps to inform elementary school teachers, principals,

1 curriculum directors, superintendents, school board members, college
2 and university reading instruction faculty, and others of its findings.

3 (2) The center, in cooperation with state-wide organizations
4 interested in improving literacy, also shall develop and implement
5 strategies to improve reading instruction in the state, with a special
6 emphasis on the instruction of reading in the primary grades using the
7 effective reading programs that have been identified in accordance with
8 section 1 of this act. The strategies may include, but should not be
9 limited to, expanding and improving reading instruction of elementary
10 school teachers in teacher preparation programs, expanded in-service
11 training in reading instruction, the training of paraprofessionals and
12 volunteers in reading instruction, improving classroom-based assessment
13 of reading, and increasing state-wide and regional technical assistance
14 in reading instruction.

15 (3) The center shall submit a status report to appropriate
16 committees of the legislature by December 31, 1996, regarding its
17 efforts to implement section 1 of this act and subsections (1) and (2)
18 of this section. The report shall include a description of safeguards
19 enacted to ensure the integrity and objectivity of the assistance and
20 advice provided by the center.

21 **Sec. 5.** RCW 28A.300.130 and 1993 c 336 s 501 are each amended to
22 read as follows:

23 (1) Expanding activity in educational research, educational
24 restructuring, and educational improvement initiatives has produced and
25 continues to produce much valuable information. The legislature finds
26 that such information should be shared with the citizens and
27 educational community of the state as widely as possible. To
28 facilitate access to information and materials on educational
29 improvement and research, the superintendent of public instruction, to
30 the extent funds are appropriated, shall establish the center for the
31 improvement of student learning. The primary purpose of the center is
32 to provide assistance and advice to parents, school board members,
33 educators, and the public regarding strategies for assisting students
34 in learning the essential academic learning requirements pursuant to
35 RCW 28A.630.885. The center shall work in conjunction with the
36 commission on student learning, educational service districts, and
37 institutions of higher education.

38 (2) The center shall:

- 1 (a) Serve as a clearinghouse for the completed work and activities
2 of the commission on student learning;
- 3 (b) Serve as a clearinghouse for information regarding successful
4 educational restructuring and parental involvement programs in schools
5 and districts, and information about efforts within institutions of
6 higher education in the state to support educational restructuring
7 initiatives in Washington schools and districts;
- 8 (c) Provide best practices research and advice that can be used to
9 help schools develop and implement: Programs and practices to improve
10 reading instruction; school improvement plans; school-based shared
11 decision-making models; programs to promote lifelong learning and
12 community involvement in education; school-to-work transition programs;
13 programs to meet the needs of highly capable students; programs to meet
14 the diverse needs of students based on gender, racial, ethnic,
15 economic, and special needs status; and other programs that will assist
16 educators in helping students learn the essential academic learning
17 requirements;
- 18 (d) Develop and distribute, in conjunction with the commission on
19 student learning, parental involvement materials, including
20 instructional guides developed to inform parents of the essential
21 academic learning requirements. The instructional guides also shall
22 contain actions parents may take to assist their children in meeting
23 the requirements, and should focus on reaching parents who have not
24 previously been involved with their children's education;
- 25 (e) Identify obstacles to greater parent and community involvement
26 in school shared decision-making processes and recommend strategies for
27 helping parents and community members to participate effectively in
28 school shared decision-making processes, including understanding and
29 respecting the roles of school building administrators and staff;
- 30 (f) Take other actions to increase public awareness of the
31 importance of parental and community involvement in education;
- 32 (g) Work with appropriate organizations to inform teachers,
33 district and school administrators, and school directors about the
34 waivers available under RCW 28A.305.140 and the broadened school board
35 powers under RCW 28A.320.015;
- 36 (h) Provide training and consultation services;
- 37 (i) Address methods for improving the success rates of certain
38 ethnic and racial student groups; and

1 (j) Perform other functions consistent with the purpose of the
2 center as prescribed in subsection (1) of this section.

3 (3) The superintendent of public instruction, after consultation
4 with the commission on student learning, shall select and employ a
5 director for the center.

6 (4) The superintendent may enter into contracts with individuals or
7 organizations including but not limited to: School districts;
8 teachers; higher education faculty; institutions of higher education;
9 state agencies; business or community-based organizations; and other
10 individuals and organizations to accomplish the duties and
11 responsibilities of the center. The superintendent shall contract out
12 with community-based organizations to meet the provisions of subsection
13 (2) (d) and (e) of this section. In carrying out the duties and
14 responsibilities of the center, the superintendent, whenever possible,
15 shall use practitioners to assist agency staff as well as assist
16 educators and others in schools and districts.

17 (5) The superintendent shall report annually to the commission on
18 student learning on the activities of the center.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** 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.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** If specific funding for sections 2 and 3 of
24 this act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number and section
25 number, is not provided by June 30, 1996, in the supplemental omnibus
26 appropriations act, sections 2 and 3 of this act are null and void."

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30 On page 1, line 1 of the title, after "literacy;" strike the
31 remainder of the title and insert "amending RCW 28A.300.130; adding new
32 sections to chapter 28A.300 RCW; creating new sections; providing an
33 expiration date; and declaring an emergency."

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