
SENATE BILL 5814

State of Washington

58th Legislature

2003 Regular Session

By Senators Brandland, Roach, Thibaudeau, Schmidt, Spanel, Honeyford, Jacobsen, Rasmussen, B. Sheldon and Winsley

Read first time 02/13/2003. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to school day requirements for graduating seniors;
2 and amending RCW 28A.150.220.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.150.220 and 1993 c 371 s 2 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) Satisfaction of the basic education program requirements
7 identified in RCW 28A.150.210 shall be considered to be implemented by
8 the following program:

9 (a) Each school district shall make available to students enrolled
10 in kindergarten at least a total instructional offering of four hundred
11 fifty hours. The program shall include instruction in the essential
12 academic learning requirements under RCW (~~28A.630.885~~) 28A.655.060
13 and such other subjects and such activities as the school district
14 shall determine to be appropriate for the education of the school
15 district's students enrolled in such program;

16 (b) Each school district shall make available to students enrolled
17 in grades one through twelve, at least a district-wide annual average
18 total instructional hour offering of one thousand hours. The state
19 board of education may define alternatives to classroom instructional

1 time for students in grades nine through twelve enrolled in alternative
2 learning experiences. The state board of education shall establish
3 rules to determine annual average instructional hours for districts
4 including fewer than twelve grades. The program shall include the
5 essential academic learning requirements under RCW ((28A.630.885))
6 28A.655.060 and such other subjects and such activities as the school
7 district shall determine to be appropriate for the education of the
8 school district's students enrolled in such group;

9 (c) If the essential academic learning requirements include a
10 requirement of languages other than English, the requirement may be met
11 by students receiving instruction in one or more American Indian
12 languages.

13 (2) Nothing contained in subsection (1) of this section shall be
14 construed to require individual students to attend school for any
15 particular number of hours per day or to take any particular courses.

16 (3)(a) Each school district's kindergarten through twelfth grade
17 basic educational program shall be accessible to all students who are
18 five years of age, as provided by RCW 28A.225.160, and less than
19 twenty-one years of age and shall consist of a minimum of one hundred
20 eighty school days per school year in such grades as are conducted by
21 a school district, and one hundred eighty half-days of instruction, or
22 equivalent, in kindergarten(~~(:—PROVIDED, That effective May 1,~~
23 ~~1979,)~~). A school district may schedule the last five school days of
24 the one hundred and eighty day school year for noninstructional
25 purposes in the case of students who are graduating from high school,
26 including, but not limited to, the observance of graduation and early
27 release from school upon the request of a student, and all such
28 students may be claimed as a full time equivalent student to the extent
29 they could otherwise have been so claimed for the purposes of RCW
30 28A.150.250 and 28A.150.260. Up to five additional days may be forgone
31 for graduating seniors in the event of school days canceled due to
32 district-wide or school emergency closures.

33 (b) The definitions in this subsection (3)(b) apply throughout this
34 subsection (3).

35 (i) "District-wide emergency closure" means that all school
36 buildings in the school district are unsafe, unhealthy, inaccessible,
37 or inoperative due to one or more unforeseen natural events, mechanical
38 failures, or actions or inactions by one or more persons.

1 (ii) "School emergency closure" means a school in the school
2 district comprised of more than one school that is unsafe, unhealthy,
3 inaccessible, or inoperative due to one or more unforeseen natural
4 events, mechanical failures, or actions or inactions by one or more
5 persons.

6 (4) The state board of education shall adopt rules to implement and
7 ensure compliance with the program requirements imposed by this
8 section, RCW 28A.150.250 and 28A.150.260, and such related supplemental
9 program approval requirements as the state board may establish.

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