
SENATE BILL 6059

State of Washington 58th Legislature 2003 Regular Session

By Senator Oke; by request of Office of Financial Management

Read first time 04/01/2003. Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

1 AN ACT Relating to teachers' cost-of-living increases; and amending
2 RCW 28A.400.205, 28A.400.206, 28B.50.465, and 28B.50.468.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.400.205 and 2001 c 4 s 2 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) School district employees shall be provided an annual salary
7 cost-of-living increase in accordance with this section.

8 (a) The cost-of-living increase shall be calculated by applying the
9 rate of the yearly increase in the cost-of-living index to any state-
10 funded salary base used in state funding formulas for teachers and
11 other school district employees. Beginning with the 2001-02 school
12 year, and for each subsequent school year, except for the 2003-04 and
13 2004-05 school years, each school district shall be provided a cost-of-
14 living allocation sufficient to grant this cost-of-living increase
15 (~~for the salaries, including mandatory salary related benefits, of all~~
16 ~~employees of the district~~)).

17 (b) A school district shall distribute its cost-of-living
18 allocation for salaries and salary-related benefits in accordance with
19 the district's salary schedules, collective bargaining agreements, and

1 compensation policies. No later than the end of the school year, each
2 school district shall certify to the superintendent of public
3 instruction that it has spent funds provided for cost-of-living
4 increases on salaries and salary-related benefits.

5 (c) Any funded cost-of-living increase shall be included in the
6 salary base used to determine cost-of-living increases for ~~((all))~~
7 school employees in subsequent years. For teachers and other
8 certificated instructional staff, the rate of the annual cost-of-living
9 increase funded for certificated instructional staff shall be applied
10 to the base salary used with the statewide salary allocation schedule
11 established under RCW 28A.150.410 and to any other salary models used
12 to recognize school district personnel costs.

13 ~~((d) Beginning with the 2001-02 school year, the state shall fully
14 fund the cost of living increase in this section as part of its
15 obligation to meet the basic education requirements under Article IX of
16 the Washington Constitution.))~~

17 (2) For the purposes of this section, "cost-of-living index" means,
18 for any school year, the previous calendar year's annual average
19 consumer price index, using the official current base, compiled by the
20 bureau of labor statistics, United States department of labor for the
21 state of Washington. If the bureau of labor statistics develops more
22 than one consumer price index for areas within the state, the index
23 covering the greatest number of people, covering areas exclusively
24 within the boundaries of the state, and including all items shall be
25 used for the cost-of-living index in this section.

26 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.400.206 and 2001 c 4 s 1 are each amended to read
27 as follows:

28 The Washington Constitution establishes "the paramount duty of the
29 state to make ample provision for the education of all children."
30 Providing quality education for all children in Washington requires
31 well-qualified and experienced teachers and other school employees.
32 However, salaries for educators have not kept up with the increased
33 cost-of-living in the state. The failure to keep up with inflation
34 threatens Washington's ability to compete with other states to attract
35 first-rate teachers to Washington classrooms and to keep well-qualified
36 educators from leaving for other professions. The state must provide

1 a fair and reasonable cost-of-living increase, as provided in this act,
2 to help ensure that the state attracts and keeps the best teachers and
3 school employees for the children of Washington.

4 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28B.50.465 and 2001 c 4 s 3 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) Academic employees of community and technical college districts
7 shall be provided an annual salary cost-of-living increase in
8 accordance with this section. For purposes of this section, "academic
9 employee" has the same meaning as defined in RCW 28B.52.020.

10 (a) Beginning with the 2001-2002 fiscal year, and for each
11 subsequent fiscal year, except as provided in (d) of this subsection,
12 each college district shall receive a cost-of-living allocation
13 sufficient to increase academic employee salaries, including mandatory
14 salary-related benefits, by the rate of the yearly increase in the
15 cost-of-living index.

16 (b) A college district shall distribute its cost-of-living
17 allocation for salaries and salary-related benefits in accordance with
18 the district's salary schedules, collective bargaining agreements, and
19 other compensation policies. No later than the end of the fiscal year,
20 each college district shall certify to the college board that it has
21 spent funds provided for cost-of-living increases on salaries and
22 salary-related benefits.

23 (c) The college board shall include any funded cost-of-living
24 increase in the salary base used to determine cost-of-living increases
25 for academic employees in subsequent years.

26 (d) Beginning with the 2001-2002 fiscal year, and for each
27 subsequent fiscal year except for the 2003-04 and 2004-05 fiscal years,
28 the state shall fully fund the cost-of-living increase set forth in
29 this section.

30 (2) For the purposes of this section, "cost-of-living index" means,
31 for any fiscal year, the previous calendar year's annual average
32 consumer price index, using the official current base, compiled by the
33 bureau of labor statistics, United States department of labor for the
34 state of Washington. If the bureau of labor statistics develops more
35 than one consumer price index for areas within the state, the index
36 covering the greatest number of people, covering areas exclusively

1 within the boundaries of the state, and including all items shall be
2 used for the cost-of-living index in this section.

3 **Sec. 4.** RCW 28B.50.468 and 2001 c 4 s 4 are each amended to read
4 as follows:

5 (1) Classified employees of technical colleges shall be provided an
6 annual salary cost-of-living increase in accordance with this section.
7 For purposes of this section, "technical college" has the same meaning
8 as defined in RCW 28B.50.030. This section applies to only those
9 classified employees under the jurisdiction of chapter 41.56 RCW.

10 (a) Beginning with the 2001-2002 fiscal year, and for each
11 subsequent fiscal year, except as provided in (d) of this subsection,
12 each technical college board of trustees shall receive a cost-of-living
13 allocation sufficient to increase classified employee salaries,
14 including mandatory salary-related benefits, by the rate of the yearly
15 increase in the cost-of-living index.

16 (b) A technical college board of trustees shall distribute its
17 cost-of-living allocation for salaries and salary-related benefits in
18 accordance with the technical college's salary schedules, collective
19 bargaining agreements, and other compensation policies. No later than
20 the end of the fiscal year, each technical college shall certify to the
21 college board that it has spent funds provided for cost-of-living
22 increases on salaries and salary-related benefits.

23 (c) The college board shall include any funded cost-of-living
24 increase in the salary base used to determine cost-of-living increases
25 for technical college classified employees in subsequent years.

26 (d) Beginning with the 2001-2002 fiscal year, and for each
27 subsequent fiscal year except for the 2003-2004 and 2004-2005 fiscal
28 years, the state shall fully fund the cost-of-living increase set forth
29 in this section.

30 (2) For the purposes of this section, "cost-of-living index" means,
31 for any fiscal year, the previous calendar year's annual average
32 consumer price index, using the official current base, compiled by the
33 bureau of labor statistics, United States department of labor for the
34 state of Washington. If the bureau of labor statistics develops more
35 than one consumer price index for areas within the state, the index
36 covering the greatest number of people, covering areas exclusively

1 within the boundaries of the state, and including all items shall be
2 used for the cost-of-living index in this section.

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