
HOUSE BILL 2637

State of Washington

59th Legislature

2006 Regular Session

By Representatives Anderson, Cox, Rodne, McDonald, Haler, Buri, Talcott, Woods, Priest, Shabro, Skinner, Crouse, Hankins, Curtis, Newhouse, Chandler, Schindler, Serben, Nixon, Clements, Sump, Orcutt, McCune, Walsh, Holmquist, Tom, Kretz, Roach, Strow, Condotta, Williams, Kristiansen, Kilmer and Dunn

Read first time 01/11/2006. Referred to Committee on Appropriations.

1 AN ACT Relating to prioritizing basic education expenditures within
2 the state appropriations process; amending RCW 28A.150.380; and adding
3 new sections to chapter 44.04 RCW.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 44.04 RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 Under Article IX, section 1 of the state Constitution, it is the
8 paramount duty of the state to make ample provision for the education
9 of all of Washington's children. According to the state supreme court,
10 this constitutional provision requires that the legislature define and
11 fully fund a program of K-12 basic education before the legislature
12 funds any other statutory programs. For these reasons, it is the
13 intent of the legislature to require that all appropriations for K-12
14 basic education, together with appropriations for other K-12 education
15 programs, be enacted into law before the legislature takes executive
16 action on other omnibus appropriations legislation.

17 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.150.380 and 2001 c 3 s 10 are each amended to read
18 as follows:

1 (1) The state legislature shall, at each regular session in an odd-
2 numbered year, appropriate from the state general fund for the current
3 use of the common schools such amounts as needed for state support to
4 the common schools during the ensuing biennium as provided in this
5 chapter, RCW 28A.160.150 through 28A.160.210, 28A.300.170, and
6 28A.500.010.

7 (2) The state legislature shall also, at each regular session in an
8 odd-numbered year, appropriate from the student achievement fund and
9 education construction fund solely for the purposes of and in
10 accordance with the provisions of the student achievement act during
11 the ensuing biennium.

12 (3) Beginning with the 2007-2009 fiscal biennium and thereafter,
13 appropriations for the purposes of this section and other K-12
14 education purposes must be made in legislation that is separate from
15 the omnibus operating appropriations act. Such appropriations must be
16 enacted into law before it is in order for either house of the
17 legislature to take executive action on omnibus operating
18 appropriations legislation.

19 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. A new section is added to chapter 44.04 RCW
20 to read as follows:

21 Beginning with the 2007-2009 fiscal biennium and thereafter,
22 appropriations for the purposes of RCW 28A.150.380 and other K-12
23 education purposes must be enacted into law before it is in order for
24 either house of the legislature to take executive action on omnibus
25 operating or transportation appropriations legislation.

26 The house of representatives and senate, jointly or separately, may
27 adopt rules or resolutions to implement their respective
28 responsibilities under this section.

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