
SENATE BILL 6641

State of Washington

59th Legislature

2006 Regular Session

By Senators Pflug and Kline

Read first time 01/17/2006. Referred to Committee on Early Learning,
K-12 & Higher Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to the special education ombudsman; and adding a
2 new section to chapter 28A.155 RCW.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.155
5 RCW to read as follows:

6 (1) The legislature finds that children with disabilities and
7 special needs have received and are receiving a better education thanks
8 to special education educators who have devoted themselves, heart and
9 soul, to the schooling of these students. The legislature further
10 finds that special education has accomplished a great deal for children
11 with disabilities in Washington state in the past and can accomplish
12 more in the future if the educators are able to receive help from
13 experts outside of the field of education but related to the needs of
14 these students.

15 (2) The special education ombudsman created in section 507, chapter
16 518, Laws of 2005, shall form a state interdisciplinary team of experts
17 or regional teams of experts to assist school districts that request
18 assistance in conducting an initial evaluation or a reevaluation of a
19 student who is suspected or has been found to have a disability that

1 adversely affects the student's educational performance. The team
2 shall include qualified physicians and psychologists who can identify
3 the appropriate medical and psychological services that the child will
4 need outside of and within the school setting in order to be able to
5 benefit from the specially designed instruction provided by the
6 educators in the school. Additionally, the ombudsman's team shall
7 assist school districts to develop an individualized education program
8 for the student.

9 (3) A school district may request assistance from the special
10 education ombudsman interdisciplinary team or teams when conducting an
11 evaluation or reevaluation of a student and when developing an
12 individualized education program for a student. A school district
13 shall request assistance from the ombudsman if it appears that the
14 student may need medical or psychological services.

15 (4) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall
16 adopt rules in accordance with chapter 34.05 RCW to implement this
17 section. The rules shall require minimal paperwork for school
18 districts to access the assistance of the ombudsman's team of experts.

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