

E2SSB 5627 - H COMM AMD
By Committee on Appropriations

NOT ADOPTED 04/10/2007

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The state's definition of basic education
4 and the corresponding funding formulas must be regularly updated in
5 order to keep pace with evolving educational practices and increasing
6 state and federal requirements and to ensure that all schools have the
7 resources they need to help give all students the opportunity to be
8 fully prepared to compete in a global economy. The work of Washington
9 learns steering committee and the K-12 advisory committee provides a
10 valuable starting point from which to evaluate the current educational
11 system and develop a unique, transparent, and stable educational
12 funding system for Washington that supports the goals and the vision of
13 a world-class learner-focused K-12 educational system that were
14 established in the final Washington learns report.

15 This act is intended to make provision for some significant steps
16 towards a new basic education funding system and establishes a joint
17 task force to address the details and next steps beyond the 2007-2009
18 biennium that will be necessary to implement a new comprehensive K-12
19 finance formula or formulas that will provide Washington schools with
20 stable and adequate funding as the expectations for the K-12 system
21 continue to evolve.

22 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The joint task force on basic education
23 finance established under this section, with research support from the
24 Washington state institute for public policy, shall review the
25 definition of basic education and all current basic education funding
26 formulas, develop options for a new funding structure and all necessary
27 formulas, and propose a new definition of basic education that is
28 realigned with the new expectations of the state's education system as

1 established in the November 2006 final report of the Washington learns
2 steering committee and the basic education provisions established in
3 chapter 28A.150 RCW.

4 (2) The joint task force on basic education finance shall consist
5 of fourteen members:

6 (a) A chair of the task force with experience with Washington
7 finance issues including knowledge of the K-12 funding formulas,
8 appointed by the governor;

9 (b) Eight legislators, with two members from each of the two
10 largest caucuses of the senate appointed by the president of the senate
11 and two members from each of the two largest caucuses of the house of
12 representatives appointed by the speaker of the house of
13 representatives;

14 (c) A representative of the governor's office or the office of
15 financial management, designated by the governor;

16 (d) The superintendent of public instruction or the
17 superintendent's designee; and

18 (e) A school superintendent, a school finance officer, and an
19 educational service district superintendent, each appointed by the
20 governor from a list of names submitted by their respective
21 professional associations.

22 (3) In conducting research directed by the task force and
23 developing options for consideration by the task force, the Washington
24 state institute for public policy shall consult with stakeholders and
25 experts in the field. The institute may also request assistance from
26 the legislative evaluation and accountability program committee, the
27 office of the superintendent of public instruction, the office of
28 financial management, the house office of program research, and senate
29 committee services.

30 (4) In developing recommendations, the joint task force shall
31 review and build upon the following:

32 (a) Reports related to K-12 finance produced at the request of or
33 as a result of the Washington learns study, including reports completed
34 for or by the K-12 advisory committee;

35 (b) High-quality studies that are available; and

36 (c) Research and evaluation of the cost-benefits of various K-12
37 programs and services developed by the institute as directed by the
38 legislature in section 607(15), chapter 372, Laws of 2006.

1 (5) The Washington state institute for public policy shall provide
2 the following reports to the joint task force:

3 (a) An initial report by September 15, 2007, proposing an initial
4 plan of action, reporting dates, timelines for fulfilling the
5 requirements of section 3 of this act, and an initial timeline for a
6 phased-in implementation of a new funding system that does not exceed
7 six years;

8 (b) A second report by December 1, 2007, including implementing
9 legislation as necessary, for at least two but no more than four
10 options for allocating school employee compensation. One of the
11 options must be a redirection and prioritization within existing
12 resources based on research-proven education programs. The report must
13 also include a projection of the expected effect of the investment made
14 under the new funding structure. The second report shall also include
15 a finalized timeline and plan for addressing the remaining components
16 of a new funding system; and

17 (c) A final report with at least two but no more than four options
18 for revising the remaining K-12 funding structure, including
19 implementing legislation as necessary, and a timeline for phasing in
20 full adoption of the new funding structure. The final report shall be
21 submitted to the joint task force by September 15, 2008. One of the
22 options must be a redirection and prioritization within existing
23 resources based on research-proven education programs. The final
24 report must also include a projection of the expected effect of the
25 investment made under the new funding structure.

26 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) The funding structure alternatives
27 developed by the joint task force under section 2 of this act shall
28 take into consideration the legislative priorities in this section, to
29 the maximum extent possible and as appropriate to each formula.

30 (2) The funding structure should reflect the most effective
31 instructional strategies and service delivery models and be based on
32 research-proven education programs and activities with demonstrated
33 cost benefits. In reviewing the possible strategies and models to
34 include in the funding structure the task force shall, at a minimum,
35 consider the following issues:

36 (a) Professional development for all staff;

1 (b) Whether the compensation system for instructional staff shall
2 include pay for performance, knowledge, and skills elements; regional
3 cost-of-living elements; elements to recognize assignments that are
4 difficult; recognition for the professional teaching level certificate
5 in the salary allocation model; and a plan to implement the pay
6 structure;

7 (c) Voluntary all-day kindergarten;

8 (d) Optimum class size, including different class sizes based on
9 grade level and ways to reduce class size;

10 (e) Focused instructional support for students and schools;

11 (f) Extended school day and school year options; and

12 (g) Health and safety requirements.

13 (3) The recommendations should provide maximum transparency of the
14 state's educational funding system in order to better help parents,
15 citizens, and school personnel in Washington understand how their
16 school system is funded.

17 (4) The funding structure should be linked to accountability for
18 student outcomes and performance.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** 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 takes effect
22 immediately."

23 Correct the title.

EFFECT: The Joint Task Force is comprised of 8 legislators, a
chair and 3 school officials appointed by the Governor, a
representative of the Governor's Office or OFM, and the SPI. The
original bill had 4 legislators, a chair with business experience and
7 members appointed by the Governor, and the SPI.

The Task Force is provided research support by the WSIPP. In
conducting research and developing options for consideration by the
Task Force, WSIPP consults with stakeholders and experts and may
request assistance from LEAP, OSPI, OFM, and legislative research
offices.

The first report is due September 15, 2007, rather than 60 days
after the bill takes effect. The second report is due in December
rather than September 2007. The final report is due September 15, 2008
rather than January 1, 2008. References to "outcome-based" formulas

are removed. Regional cost-of-living elements are considered for the compensation system.

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