

E2SSB 5627 - H COMM AMD
By Committee on Education

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 the
9 Washington learns steering committee and the K-12 advisory committee
10 provides a valuable starting point from which to evaluate the current
11 educational system and develop a unique, transparent, and stable
12 educational funding system for Washington that supports the goals and
13 the vision of a world-class learner-focused K-12 educational system
14 that were established in the final Washington learns report.

15 This act establishes a joint select committee of the legislature to
16 address the details necessary to develop new comprehensive K-12 finance
17 formulas that will provide Washington schools with stable and adequate
18 funding as the expectations for the K-12 system continue to evolve.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.150
20 RCW to read as follows:

21 (1) The joint select committee on basic education finance is
22 established, with members as provided in this subsection.

23 (a) The president of the senate shall appoint four members from
24 each of the two largest caucuses of the senate and shall designate one
25 member to serve as cochair.

26 (b) The speaker of the house of representatives shall appoint four
27 members from each of the two largest caucuses of the house of
28 representatives and shall designate one member to serve as cochair.

1 (2) To address specific tasks in the committee work plan, the joint
2 select committee may convene ad hoc work groups that include
3 representatives of state education agencies and organizations, school
4 district staff, business and community members, and others. The ad hoc
5 work groups shall report to the joint select committee.

6 (3) Staff support for the joint select committee shall be provided
7 by the senate committee services and the house office of program
8 research, with assistance as requested from the legislative evaluation
9 and accountability program, the office of financial management, the
10 office of the superintendent of public instruction, and the Washington
11 state institute for public policy.

12 (4) Members of the joint select committee shall be reimbursed for
13 travel expenses in accordance with RCW 44.04.120. Members of ad hoc
14 work groups are not entitled to expense reimbursement.

15 (5) The joint select committee shall expire on January 1, 2009.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.150
17 RCW to read as follows:

18 (1) The purpose of the joint select committee established under
19 section 2 of this act is to review the definition of basic education
20 and all current basic education funding formulas and recommend for
21 consideration by the full legislature, options for a new funding
22 structure and all necessary formulas, along with a new definition of
23 basic education, that is realigned with the new expectations of the
24 state's education system as established in the November 2006 final
25 report of the Washington learns steering committee and the basic
26 education provisions established in this chapter.

27 (2) The joint select committee shall first develop a work plan that
28 identifies, in an ordered sequence, the aspects of the funding
29 structure and funding formulas to be addressed by the committee and
30 includes reporting timelines. At a minimum, the committee shall
31 present a progress report by December 1, 2007, and a final report by
32 December 1, 2008, to the education and fiscal committees of the senate
33 and the house of representatives. The reports shall contain the joint
34 select committee's recommended options for the funding structure and
35 funding formulas addressed under the work plan during the previous
36 year. The joint select committee may revise the work plan as
37 necessary.

1 (3) For each funding formula addressed, at least one of the options
2 recommended by the joint select committee must be a redirection and
3 prioritization within existing resources based on research-proven
4 education programs. The options must also include projections of the
5 expected effect of the investment made under any new funding structure.

6 (4) In developing its recommendations, the joint select committee
7 shall review and build upon the following:

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

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

12 (c) Research and evaluation of the cost benefits of various K-12
13 programs and services developed by the Washington state institute for
14 public policy as directed by the legislature in section 607(15),
15 chapter 372, Laws of 2006.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.150
17 RCW to read as follows:

18 (1) The options developed by the joint select committee under
19 section 3 of this act shall take into consideration the legislative
20 priorities in this section, to the maximum extent possible and as
21 appropriate to each formula.

22 (2) Funding structures should reflect the most effective
23 instructional strategies and service delivery models and be based on
24 research-proven education programs and activities with demonstrated
25 cost benefits. In reviewing possible strategies and models the joint
26 select committee shall, at a minimum, consider the following issues:

27 (a) Professional development for all staff;

28 (b) Whether the compensation system for instructional staff shall
29 include pay for performance, knowledge, and skills elements; regional
30 cost-of-living factors; elements to recognize assignments that are
31 difficult; recognition for the professional teaching level certificate
32 in the salary allocation model; and a plan to implement the pay
33 structure;

34 (c) Voluntary all-day kindergarten;

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

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

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

2 (g) Health and safety requirements.

3 (3) The recommendations should provide maximum transparency of the
4 state's educational funding system to assist parents, citizens, and
5 school personnel in Washington in understanding how their school system
6 is funded.

7 (4) Funding structures should be linked to accountability for
8 student outcomes and performance.

9 (5) The joint select committee shall also consider:

10 (a) The role of the K-12 education system in building a world-
11 class, seamless P-20 education system for Washington;

12 (b) Providing students with an opportunity to acquire mathematics
13 and science skills to meet international standards;

14 (c) Creating personalized learning opportunities for students; and

15 (d) Emphasizing student outcomes.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** This act is necessary for the immediate
17 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
18 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
19 immediately."

20 Correct the title.

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