

E2SSB 5627 - H AMD 603

By Representative Haigh

ADOPTED AS AMENDED 4/10/2007

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

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

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

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The joint task force on basic
24 education finance established under this section, with research
25 support from the Washington state institute for public policy,
26 shall review the definition of basic education and all current
27 basic education funding formulas, develop options for a new funding
28 structure and all necessary formulas, and propose a new definition
29 of basic education that is realigned with the new expectations of
30 the state's education system as established in the November 2006

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

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

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

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

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

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

17 (e) Three individuals with significant experience with
18 Washington K-12 finance issues, including the use and application
19 of the current basic education funding formulas, appointed by the
20 governor. Each of the two largest caucuses of the house of
21 representatives and the senate may submit names to the governor for
22 consideration.

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

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

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

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

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

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

3 (a) An initial report by September 15, 2007, proposing an
4 initial plan of action, reporting dates, timelines for fulfilling
5 the requirements of section 3 of this act, and an initial timeline
6 for a phased-in implementation of a new funding system that does
7 not exceed 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
13 must also include a projection of the expected effect of the
14 investment made under the new funding structure. The second report
15 shall also include a finalized timeline and plan for addressing the
16 remaining components of a new funding system; and

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

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

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

37 (a) Professional development for all staff;

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

7 (c) Voluntary all-day kindergarten;

8 (d) Optimum class size, including different class sizes based
9 on 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
14 the state's educational funding system in order to better help
15 parents, citizens, and school personnel in Washington understand
16 how their school system is funded.

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

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** As the joint task force considers a new
20 definition of basic education as required under section 2 of this
21 act, the task force shall consider the following proposed basic
22 education goals and shall make recommendations regarding whether
23 the proposed goals provide adequate guidance and vision for the
24 state's education system in the twenty-first century:

25 "The goal of the basic education act for the schools of the
26 state of Washington set forth in this chapter shall be to provide
27 students with the opportunity to become responsible and respectful
28 global citizens, to contribute to their economic well-being and
29 that of their families and communities, to explore and understand
30 diverse perspectives, to enjoy productive and satisfying lives, and
31 to develop a public school system that focuses on the educational
32 achievement of all students, which includes high expectations for
33 and prepares students to achieve personal and academic success. To
34 these ends, the goals of each school district, with the involvement
35 of parents and community members, shall be to provide opportunities
36 for every student to develop the knowledge and skills essential to:

1 (1) Read with comprehension, write effectively, and
2 communicate successfully in a variety of ways and settings and with
3 a variety of audiences;

4 (2) Know and apply the core concepts and principles of
5 mathematics; social, physical, and life sciences; world history,
6 cultures, and geography; civics and arts; and health and fitness;

7 (3) Think analytically, logically, and creatively, and to
8 integrate different experiences and knowledge to form reasoned
9 judgments and solve problems;

10 (4) Understand the importance of work and personal financial
11 literacy and how performance, effort, and decisions directly affect
12 future career and educational opportunities; and

13 (5) Understand and be fully prepared to exercise the
14 responsibilities of civic participation in a pluralistic society."

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

19 Correct the title.

EFFECT: The Joint Task Force is comprised of 8 legislators, a chair and 3 three members with significant experience with K-12 finance issues 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.

The Joint Task Force, in its consideration of a new definition of basic education, must consider proposed language regarding the goals of the Basic Education Act and make recommendations

about whether those proposed goals provide adequate guidance and vision for the state's education system in the 21st century.