
HOUSE BILL 2148

State of Washington 60th Legislature 2007 Regular Session

By Representative Quall

Read first time 02/09/2007. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to changing school district boundaries; and
2 amending RCW 28A.315.195.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.315.195 and 2006 c 263 s 502 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) A proposed change in school district organization by transfer
7 of territory from one school district to another may be initiated by a
8 petition in writing presented to the educational service district
9 superintendent((+)

10 ~~(a))~~ signed by at least fifty percent plus one of the active
11 registered voters residing in the territory proposed to be
12 transferred(~~(+ or~~

13 ~~(b) Signed by a majority of the members of the board of directors~~
14 ~~of one of the districts affected by a proposed transfer of territory)).~~

15 (2) The petition shall state the name and number of each district
16 affected, describe the boundaries of the territory proposed to be
17 transferred, and state the reasons for desiring the change and the
18 number of children of school age, if any, residing in the territory.

1 (3) The educational service district superintendent shall not
2 complete any transfer of territory under this section that involves ten
3 percent or more of the common school student population of the entire
4 district from which the transfer is proposed, unless the educational
5 service district superintendent has first called and held a special
6 election of the voters of the entire school district from which the
7 transfer of territory is proposed. The purpose of the election is to
8 afford those voters an opportunity to approve or reject the proposed
9 transfer. A simple majority shall determine approval or rejection.

10 (4) The superintendent of public instruction may establish rules
11 limiting the frequency of petitions that may be filed pertaining to
12 territory included in whole or in part in a previous petition.

13 (5) Upon receipt of the petition, the educational service district
14 superintendent shall notify in writing the affected districts that:

15 (a) Each school district board of directors, whether or not
16 initiating a proposed transfer of territory, is required to enter into
17 negotiations with the affected district or districts;

18 (b) In the case of a citizen-initiated petition, the affected
19 districts must negotiate on the entire proposed transfer of territory;

20 (c) The districts have ninety calendar days in which to agree to
21 the proposed transfer of territory;

22 (d) The districts may request and shall be granted by the
23 educational service district superintendent one thirty-day extension to
24 try to reach agreement; and

25 (e) Any district involved in the negotiations may at any time
26 during the ninety-day period notify the educational service district
27 superintendent in writing that agreement will not be possible.

28 (6) If the negotiating school boards cannot come to agreement about
29 the proposed transfer of territory, the educational service district
30 superintendent, if requested by the affected districts, shall appoint
31 a mediator. The mediator has thirty days to work with the affected
32 school districts to see if an agreement can be reached on the proposed
33 transfer of territory.

34 (7) If the affected school districts cannot come to agreement about
35 the proposed transfer of territory, and the districts do not request
36 the services of a mediator or the mediator was unable to bring the
37 districts to agreement, either district may file with the educational

1 service district superintendent a written request for a hearing by the
2 regional committee.

3 (8) If the affected school districts cannot come to agreement about
4 the proposed transfer of territory initiated by citizen petition, and
5 the districts do not request the services of a mediator or the mediator
6 was unable to bring the districts to agreement, the district in which
7 the citizens who filed the petition reside shall file with the
8 educational service district superintendent a written request for a
9 hearing by the regional committee, unless a majority of the citizen
10 petitioners request otherwise.

11 (9) Upon receipt of a notice under subsection (7) or (8) of this
12 section, the educational service district superintendent shall notify
13 the chair of the regional committee in writing within ten days.

14 (10) Costs incurred by school districts under this section shall be
15 reimbursed by the state from such funds as are appropriated for this
16 purpose.

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