

E2SSB 5941 - H COMM AMD  
By Committee on Education

NOT CONSIDERED 04/26/2009

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

3 "Sec. 1. RCW 43.41.400 and 2007 c 401 s 3 are each amended to read  
4 as follows:

5 (1) An education data center shall be established in the office of  
6 financial management. The education data center shall jointly, with  
7 the legislative ((~~education—[evaluation]~~)) evaluation and  
8 accountability program committee, conduct collaborative analyses of  
9 early learning, K-12, and higher education programs and education  
10 issues across the P-20 system, which includes the department of early  
11 learning, the superintendent of public instruction, the professional  
12 educator standards board, the state board of education, the state board  
13 for community and technical colleges, the workforce training and  
14 education coordinating board, the higher education coordinating board,  
15 public and private nonprofit four-year institutions of higher  
16 education, and the employment security department. The education data  
17 center shall conduct collaborative analyses under this section with the  
18 legislative evaluation and accountability program committee and provide  
19 data electronically to the legislative evaluation and accountability  
20 program committee, to the extent permitted by state and federal  
21 confidentiality requirements. The education data center shall be  
22 considered an authorized representative of the state educational  
23 agencies in this section under applicable federal and state statutes  
24 for purposes of accessing and compiling student record data for  
25 research purposes.

26 (2) The education data center shall:

27 (a) In consultation with the legislative evaluation and  
28 accountability program committee and the agencies and organizations  
29 participating in the education data center, identify the critical

1 research and policy questions that are intended to be addressed by the  
2 center and the data needed to address the questions;

3 (b) Coordinate with other state education agencies to compile and  
4 analyze education data, including data on student demographics that is  
5 disaggregated by distinct ethnic categories within racial subgroups,  
6 and complete P-20 research projects;

7 ~~((b))~~ (c) Collaborate with the legislative evaluation and  
8 accountability program committee and the education and fiscal  
9 committees of the legislature in identifying the data to be compiled  
10 and analyzed to ensure that legislative interests are served;

11 ~~((e))~~ (d) Monitor and evaluate the education data collection  
12 systems of the organizations and agencies represented in the education  
13 data center ensuring that data systems are flexible, able to adapt to  
14 evolving needs for information, and to the extent feasible and  
15 necessary, include data that are needed to conduct the analyses and  
16 provide answers to the research and policy questions identified in (a)  
17 of this subsection;

18 (e) Track enrollment and outcomes through the public centralized  
19 higher education enrollment system;

20 ~~((d))~~ (f) Assist other state educational agencies' collaborative  
21 efforts to develop a long-range enrollment plan for higher education  
22 including estimates to meet demographic and workforce needs; ~~((and~~

23 ~~(e))~~ (g) Provide research that focuses on student transitions  
24 within and among the early learning, K-12, and higher education sectors  
25 in the P-20 system; and

26 (h) Make recommendations to the legislature as necessary to help  
27 ensure the goals and objectives of this section and section 2 of this  
28 act are met.

29 (3) The department of early learning, superintendent of public  
30 instruction, professional educator standards board, state board of  
31 education, state board for community and technical colleges, workforce  
32 training and education coordinating board, higher education  
33 coordinating board, public four-year institutions of higher education,  
34 and employment security department shall work with the education data  
35 center to develop data-sharing and research agreements, consistent with  
36 applicable security and confidentiality requirements, to facilitate the  
37 work of the center. Private, nonprofit institutions of higher  
38 education that provide programs of education beyond the high school

1 level leading at least to the baccalaureate degree and are accredited  
2 by the Northwest association of schools and colleges or their peer  
3 accreditation bodies may also develop data-sharing and research  
4 agreements with the education data center, consistent with applicable  
5 security and confidentiality requirements. The education data center  
6 shall make data from collaborative analyses available to the education  
7 agencies and institutions that contribute data to the education data  
8 center to the extent allowed by federal and state security and  
9 confidentiality requirements applicable to the data of each  
10 contributing agency or institution.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.655  
12 RCW to read as follows:

13 (1) It is the legislature's intent to establish a comprehensive K-  
14 12 education data improvement system for financial, student, and  
15 educator data. The objective of the system is to monitor student  
16 progress, have information on the quality of the educator workforce,  
17 monitor and analyze the costs of programs, provide for financial  
18 integrity and accountability, and have the capability to link across  
19 these various data components by student, by class, by teacher, by  
20 school, by district, and statewide. Education data systems must be  
21 flexible and able to adapt to evolving needs for information, but there  
22 must be an objective and orderly data governance process for  
23 determining when changes are needed and how to implement them.  
24 Furthermore, the benefits of significant increases in the amount of  
25 data available for analysis must be carefully weighed against the costs  
26 to school districts to enter, update, maintain, and submit the data and  
27 to implement new software and data management systems. It is the  
28 legislature's intent that the K-12 education data improvement system  
29 serve the information needs of educators, parents, policymakers, and  
30 the public but remain focused on the primary purpose of improving  
31 education.

32 (2) It is the legislature's intent that the K-12 education data  
33 improvement system used by school districts and the state include but  
34 not be limited to the following information and functionality:

35 (a) Comprehensive educator assignment information, including but  
36 not limited to grade level and courses taught, building or location,  
37 program, job assignment, years of experience, and compensation;

1 (b) The capacity to link educator assignment information with  
2 educator certification information;

3 (c) Common coding of secondary courses and major areas of study at  
4 the elementary level or standard coding of course content;

5 (d) Robust student information, including but not limited to  
6 student characteristics, course and program enrollment, and performance  
7 on assessments;

8 (e) A subset of student information elements to serve as a dropout  
9 early warning system;

10 (f) Student data that is sufficiently disaggregated to permit  
11 monitoring and analysis of progress in closing the achievement gap;

12 (g) The capacity to link educator information with student  
13 information;

14 (h) A common, standardized structure for reporting the costs of  
15 programs at the school and district level with a focus on the cost of  
16 services delivered to students;

17 (i) Information linking state funding formulas to school district  
18 budgeting and accounting, including procedures to support the accuracy  
19 and auditing of financial data;

20 (j) The capacity to link program cost information with student  
21 performance information to gauge the cost-effectiveness of programs;  
22 and

23 (k) Information that is centrally accessible and updated regularly.

24 (3) It is the legislature's goal that all school districts have the  
25 capability to collect state-identified common data and export it in a  
26 standard format to support the comprehensive K-12 education data  
27 improvement system.

28 (4) It is the legislature's intent that school districts collect  
29 and report new data elements to satisfy the requirements of RCW  
30 43.41.400 and this section only to the extent funds are available for  
31 this purpose.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.655  
33 RCW to read as follows:

34 (1) A K-12 data governance group shall be established within the  
35 office of the superintendent of public instruction to assist in the  
36 design and implementation of a K-12 education data improvement system  
37 for financial, student, and educator data.

1 (2) The K-12 data governance group shall include representatives of  
2 the education data center, the office of the superintendent of public  
3 instruction, the legislative evaluation and accountability program  
4 committee, the professional educator standards board, the state board  
5 of education, and school district and educational service district  
6 staff, including information technology staff. Additional entities  
7 with expertise in education data may be included in the K-12 data  
8 governance group.

9 (3) The K-12 data governance group shall:

10 (a) Identify the critical research and policy questions that need  
11 to be addressed by the K-12 education data improvement system;

12 (b) Create a comprehensive needs requirement document detailing the  
13 specific information and technical capacity needed by school districts  
14 and the state to meet the legislature's expectations for a  
15 comprehensive K-12 education data improvement system as described under  
16 section 2 of this act;

17 (c) Conduct a gap analysis of current and planned information  
18 compared to the needs requirement document, including an analysis of  
19 the strengths and limitations of education data systems and programs  
20 currently used by school districts and the state;

21 (d) Place a priority on financial and cost data necessary to  
22 support K-12 financial models and funding formulas, including any  
23 necessary changes to school district budgeting and accounting, and on  
24 assuring the capacity to link data across financial, student, and  
25 educator systems; and

26 (e) Define the operating rules and governance structure for K-12  
27 data collections, ensuring that data systems are flexible and able to  
28 adapt to evolving needs for information, within an objective and  
29 orderly data governance process for determining when changes are needed  
30 and how to implement them. The operating rules shall address such  
31 issues as:

32 (i) Standards for privacy and confidentiality;

33 (ii) Data collection priorities;

34 (iii) A standard data dictionary;

35 (iv) Ensuring data accuracy; and

36 (v) Establishing minimum standards for school, student, financial,  
37 and educator data systems.

1 (4) The work of the K-12 data governance group may be periodically  
2 reviewed and monitored by the educational data center and the  
3 legislative evaluation and accountability program committee.

4 (5) The superintendent of public instruction shall submit a  
5 preliminary report to the legislature by November 15, 2009, including  
6 the analyses by the K-12 data governance group under subsection (3) of  
7 this section and preliminary options for addressing identified gaps.  
8 A final report, including a proposed phase-in plan and preliminary cost  
9 estimates for implementation of a comprehensive data improvement system  
10 for financial, student, and educator data shall be submitted to the  
11 legislature by September 1, 2010.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The education data center and the  
13 superintendent of public instruction shall take all actions necessary  
14 to secure federal funds to implement this act."

15 Correct the title.

EFFECT: 1. Removes a requirement that the OFM Data Center  
annually submit a list of data elements to the K-12 Data Governance  
Group and that, within three months, the Group return a feasibility  
analysis.

2. Removes Legislative intent to have OFM and LEAP provide  
independent review and evaluation of the K-12 data system.

3. Establishes the K-12 Data Governance Group in OSPI, not OFM.  
Removes a requirement that the Governance Group report to the OFM Data  
Center and LEAP, but maintains authority for those entities to  
periodically review the work of the Group.

4. Includes a statement of Legislative intent that the K-12 data  
system serve various information needs, with benefits weighed against  
costs to districts, and remain focused on improving education.

5. Adds an expectation for the system to contain student data  
sufficiently disaggregated to permit monitoring of progress in closing  
the achievement gap.

6. Removes specificity from the expected data elements, data  
governance, and operating rules.

7. Removes requirements for reports to comply with technical  
requirements established by the OFM Data Center and to include  
documentation of which data are not available or estimated.

8. Removes requirements for SPI to post certain specified reports  
on the internet.

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