S-2293.1

SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5248

State of Washington 61st Legislature 2009 Regular Session

By Senate Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Senators Hobbs, King, McAuliffe, Brown, Kauffman, Holmquist, Tom, Shin, Hewitt, Brandland, McDermott, Jarrett, Kilmer, Haugen, and Roach)

READ FIRST TIME 03/02/09.

1 Relating to the on educational AN ACT interstate compact RCW 2 opportunity for military children; amending 28A.225.330, 28A.225.160, 28A.185.030, 28A.180.040, 28A.225.210, and 28A.225.225; 3 adding a new section to chapter 28A.225 RCW; creating a new section; 4 5 and adding a new chapter to Title 28A RCW.

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

7 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 1.

8

ARTICLE I

9

PURPOSE

10 It is the purpose of this compact to remove barriers to educational 11 success imposed on children of military families because of frequent 12 moves and deployment of their parents by:

A. Facilitating the timely enrollment of children of military families and ensuring that they are not placed at a disadvantage due to difficulty in the transfer of education records from the previous school districts or variations in entrance and age requirements;

17 B. Facilitating the student placement process through which

1 children of military families are not disadvantaged by variations in 2 attendance requirements, scheduling, sequencing, grading, course 3 content, or assessment;

C. Facilitating the qualification and eligibility for enrollment,
educational programs, and participation in extracurricular academic,
athletic, and social activities;

D. Facilitating the on-time graduation of children of military8 families;

9 E. Providing for the promulgation and enforcement of 10 administrative rules implementing the provisions of this compact;

F. Providing for the uniform collection and sharing of information between and among member states, schools, and military families under this compact;

G. Promoting coordination between this compact and other compactsaffecting military children; and

16 H. Promoting flexibility and cooperation between the educational 17 system, parents, and the student in order to achieve educational 18 success for the student.

ARTICLE II

DEFINITIONS

As used in this compact, unless the context clearly requires a different construction:

A. "Active duty" means full-time duty status in the active uniformed service of the United States, including members of the national guard and reserve on active duty orders pursuant to 10 U.S.C. Secs. 1209 and 1211.

B. "Children of military families" means school-aged children,
 enrolled in kindergarten through twelfth grade, in the household of an
 active duty member.

C. "Compact commissioner" means the voting representative of each
 compacting state appointed pursuant to Article VIII of this compact.

32 D. "Deployment" means the period one month prior to the service 33 members' departure from their home station on military orders through 34 six months after return to their home station.

E. "Education records" or "educational records" means those official records, files, and data directly related to a student and maintained by the school or local education agency, including but not limited to, records encompassing all the material kept in the student's

19

20

1 cumulative folder such as general identifying data, records of 2 attendance and of academic work completed, records of achievement and 3 results of evaluative tests, health data, disciplinary status, test 4 protocols, and individualized education programs.

5 F. "Extracurricular activities" means a voluntary activity 6 sponsored by the school or local education agency or an organization 7 sanctioned by the local education agency. Extracurricular activities 8 include, but are not limited to, preparation for and involvement in 9 public performances, contests, athletic competitions, demonstrations, 10 displays, and club activities.

11 G. "Interstate commission on educational opportunity for military 12 children" means the commission that is created under Article IX of this 13 compact, which is generally referred to as the interstate commission.

H. "Local education agency" means a public authority legally constituted by the state as an administrative agency to provide control of and direction for kindergarten through twelfth grade public educational institutions.

18

I. "Member state" means a state that has enacted this compact.

19 J. "Military installation" means a base, camp, post, station, yard, center, homeport facility for any ship, or other activity under 20 21 the jurisdiction of the United States department of defense, including 22 any leased facility, which is located within any of the several states, 23 the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the U.S. 24 Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Northern Marianas Islands, and any other U.S. territory. Such term does not include any facility 25 26 used primarily for civil works, rivers and harbors projects, or flood 27 control projects.

28 K. "Nonmember state" means a state that has not enacted this 29 compact.

30 L. "Receiving state" means the state to which a child of a 31 military family is sent, brought, or caused to be sent or brought.

M. "Rule" means a written statement by the interstate commission promulgated pursuant to Article XII of this compact that is of general applicability, implements, interprets, or prescribes a policy or provision of the compact, or an organizational, procedural, or practice requirement of the interstate commission, and has the force and effect of statutory law in a member state, and includes the amendment, repeal, or suspension of an existing rule.

N. "Sending state" means the state from which a child of a
 military family is sent, brought, or caused to be sent or brought.

0. "State" means a state of the United States, the District of
Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands,
Guam, American Samoa, the Northern Marianas Islands, and any other U.S.
territory.

P. "Student" means the child of a military family for whom the
local education agency receives public funding and who is formally
enrolled in kindergarten through twelfth grade.

Q. "Transition" means: (1) The formal and physical process of transferring from school to school; or (2) the period of time in which a student moves from one school in the sending state to another school in the receiving state.

14 R. "Uniformed services" means the army, navy, air force, marine 15 corps, and coast guard, as well as the commissioned corps of the 16 national oceanic and atmospheric administration, and public health 17 services.

18 S. "Veteran" means a person who served in the uniformed services 19 and who was discharged or released therefrom under conditions other 20 than dishonorable.

21

22

A. Except as otherwise provided in section B of this article, this compact shall apply to the children of:

ARTICLE III

APPLICABILITY

Active duty members of the uniformed services as defined in
 this compact, including members of the national guard and reserve on
 active duty orders pursuant to 10 U.S.C. Secs. 1209 and 1211;

Members or veterans of the uniformed services who are severely
 injured and medically discharged or retired for a period of one year
 after medical discharge or retirement; and

31 3. Members of the uniformed services who die on active duty or as 32 a result of injuries sustained on active duty for a period of one year 33 after death.

34 B. The provisions of this interstate compact shall only apply to 35 local education agencies as defined in this compact.

36 C. The provisions of this compact shall not apply to the children 37 of:

38 1. Inactive members of the national guard and military reserves;

2. Members of the uniformed services now retired, except as
 provided in section A of this article;

3 3. Veterans of the uniformed services, except as provided in4 section A of this article; and

5 4. Other U.S. department of defense personnel and other federal 6 agency civilian and contract employees not defined as active duty 7 members of the uniformed services.

ARTICLE IV

8

9

EDUCATIONAL RECORDS AND ENROLLMENT

Unofficial or "hand-carried" education records - In the event 10 Α. that official education records cannot be released to the parents for 11 the purpose of transfer, the custodian of the records in the sending 12 13 state shall prepare and furnish to the parent a complete set of unofficial educational records containing uniform information 14 as determined by the interstate commission. 15 Upon receipt of the 16 unofficial education records by a school in the receiving state, the 17 school shall enroll and appropriately place the student based on the 18 information provided in the unofficial records pending validation by 19 the official records, as quickly as possible.

20 Official education records and transcripts - Simultaneous with Β. 21 the enrollment and conditional placement of the student, the school in 22 the receiving state shall request the student's official education 23 record from the school in the sending state. Upon receipt of this 24 request, the school in the sending state will process and furnish the official education records to the school in the receiving state within 25 ten days or within such time as is reasonably determined under the 26 27 rules promulgated by the interstate commission. However, if the 28 student has an unpaid fine at a public school or unpaid tuition, fees, 29 or fines at a private school, then the sending school shall send the information requested but may withhold the official transcript until 30 the monetary obligation is met. 31

C. Immunizations - On or before the first day of attendance, the 32 33 parent guardian must meet the immunization documentation or requirements of the Washington board of health. Compacting states 34 35 shall give thirty days from the date of enrollment or within such time as is reasonably determined under the rules promulgated by the 36 interstate commission, for students to obtain any immunizations 37 38 required by the receiving state. For a series of immunizations,

initial vaccinations must be obtained within thirty days or within such time as is reasonably determined under the rules promulgated by the interstate commission.

4 D. Kindergarten and first grade entrance age - Students shall be 5 allowed to continue their enrollment at grade level in the receiving state commensurate with their grade level (including kindergarten) from 6 7 a local education agency in the sending state at the time of 8 transition, regardless of age. A student who has satisfactorily completed the prerequisite grade level in the local education agency in 9 10 the sending state shall be eligible for enrollment in the next highest grade level in the receiving state, regardless of age. A student 11 12 transferring after the start of the school year in the receiving state 13 shall enter the school in the receiving state on his or her validated level from an accredited school in the sending state. 14

ARTICLE V

PLACEMENT AND ATTENDANCE

17 A. Course placement - When the student transfers before or during 18 the school year, the receiving state school shall initially honor placement of the student in educational courses based on the student's 19 enrollment in the sending state school and/or educational assessments 20 21 conducted at the school in the sending state if the courses are offered 22 and if space is available, as determined by the school district. 23 Course placement includes but is not limited to honors, international 24 baccalaureate, advanced placement, vocational, technical, and career pathways courses. Continuing the student's academic program from the 25 previous school and promoting placement in academically and career 26 27 challenging courses should be paramount when considering placement. 28 This does not preclude the school in the receiving state from 29 performing subsequent evaluations to ensure appropriate placement and continued enrollment of the student in the courses. 30

B. Educational program placement - The receiving state school shall initially honor placement of the student in educational programs based on current educational assessments conducted at the school in the sending state or participation and placement in like programs in the sending state and if space is available, as determined by the school district. Such programs include, but are not limited to: (1) Gifted and talented programs; and (2) English as a second language (ESL).

15

16

р. б

This does not preclude the school in the receiving state from 1 2 performing subsequent evaluations to ensure appropriate placement of 3 the student.

4 C. Special education services - (1) In compliance with the federal requirements of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), 5 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1400 et seq., the receiving state shall initially 6 7 provide comparable services to a student with disabilities based on his 8 or her current Individualized Education Program (IEP); and (2) in compliance with the requirements of section 504 of the rehabilitation 9 act, 29 U.S.C. Sec. 794, and with Title II of the Americans with 10 11 disabilities act, 42 U.S.C. Secs. 12131-12165, the receiving state 12 shall make reasonable accommodations and modifications to address the 13 needs of incoming students with disabilities, subject to an existing 504 or Title II plan, to provide the student with equal access to 14 education. This does not preclude the school in the receiving state 15 from performing subsequent evaluations to ensure appropriate placement 16 17 of the student.

Placement flexibility - Local education agency administrative 18 D. 19 officials shall have flexibility in waiving course and program prerequisites, or other preconditions for placement in courses and 20 21 programs offered under the jurisdiction of the local education agency.

22 Ε. Absence as related to deployment activities - A student whose 23 parent or legal guardian is an active duty member of the uniformed 24 services, as defined by this compact, and has been called to duty for, 25 is on leave from, or immediately returned from deployment to a combat 26 zone or combat support posting, shall be granted additional excused 27 absences at the discretion of the local education agency superintendent 28 to visit with his or her parent or legal guardian relative to such 29 leave or deployment of the parent or guardian.

30

ARTICLE VI

31

32

ELIGIBILITY

A. Eligibility for enrollment

33 Special power of attorney, relative to the guardianship of a 1. child of a military family and executed under applicable law shall be 34 35 sufficient for the purposes of enrollment and all other actions requiring parental participation and consent. 36

A local education agency shall be prohibited from charging 37 2.

local tuition to a transitioning military child placed in the care of 1 2 a noncustodial parent or other person standing in loco parentis who lives in a jurisdiction other than that of the custodial parent. 3

4 A transitioning military child, placed in the care of a 3. 5 noncustodial parent or other person standing in loco parentis who lives in a jurisdiction other than that of the custodial parent, may continue б 7 to attend the school in which he or she was enrolled while residing 8 with the custodial parent.

Eligibility for extracurricular participation - Under RCW 9 Β. 10 28A.225.280, the Washington interscholastic activities association and local education agencies shall facilitate the opportunity for 11 12 transitioning military children's inclusion in extracurricular 13 activities, regardless of application deadlines, to the extent they are 14 otherwise qualified and space is available, as determined by the school 15 district.

ARTICLE VII

GRADUATION

18 In order to facilitate the on-time graduation of children of 19 military families, states and local education agencies shall 20 incorporate the following procedures:

16

17

21 Waiver requirements - Local education agency administrative Α. 22 officials shall waive specific courses required for graduation if 23 similar coursework has been satisfactorily completed in another local 24 education agency or shall provide reasonable justification for denial. Should a waiver not be granted to a student who would qualify to 25 graduate from the sending school, the local education agency shall use 26 27 best efforts to provide an alternative means of acquiring required 28 coursework so that graduation may occur on time.

29 Exit exams - For students entering high school in eleventh or в. twelfth grade, states shall accept: (1) Exit or end-of-course exams 30 31 required for graduation from the sending state; or (2) national normreferenced achievement tests; or (3) alternative testing, in lieu of 32 33 testing requirements for graduation in the receiving state. In the event the above alternatives cannot be accommodated by the receiving 34 35 state for a student transferring in his or her senior year, then the provisions of section C of this article shall apply. 36

37 Transfers during senior year - Should a military student C. 38 transferring at the beginning or during his or her senior year be

ineligible to graduate from the receiving local education agency after 1 2 all alternatives have been considered, the sending and receiving local education agencies shall ensure the receipt of a diploma from the 3 4 sending local education agency, if the student meets the graduation requirements of the sending local education agency. In the event that 5 6 one of the states in question is not a member of this compact, the state shall use best efforts to facilitate the on-time 7 member 8 graduation of the student in accordance with sections A and B of this 9 article.

- 10
- 11

ARTICLE VIII STATE COORDINATION

Each member state shall, through the creation of a state 12 Α. council or use of an existing body or board, provide for the 13 14 coordination among its agencies of government, local education 15 military installations concerning the agencies, and state's 16 participation in, and compliance with, this compact and interstate 17 commission activities. While each member state may determine the 18 membership of its own state council, its membership must include at superintendent of 19 least: The state public instruction, а superintendent of a school district with a high concentration of 20 21 military children, a representative from a military installation, one 22 representative each from the legislative and executive branches of 23 government, and other offices and stakeholder groups the state council deems appropriate. A member state that does not have a school district 24 25 deemed to contain a high concentration of military children may appoint superintendent from another school district to represent local 26 a 27 education agencies on the state council.

B. The state council of each member state shall appoint or designate a military family education liaison to assist military families and the state in facilitating the implementation of this compact.

32 C. The compact commissioner responsible for the administration and 33 management of the state's participation in the compact shall be 34 appointed by the governor or as otherwise determined by each member 35 state. The governor is strongly encouraged to appoint a practicing K-36 12 educator as the compact commissioner.

37 D. The compact commissioner and the military family education

p. 9

1 liaison designated herein shall be ex officio members of the state 2 council, unless either is already a full voting member of the state 3 council.

ARTICLE IX

INTERSTATE COMMISSION ON EDUCATIONAL

OPPORTUNITY FOR MILITARY CHILDREN

5 6

4

7 The member states hereby create the "interstate commission on 8 educational opportunity for military children." The activities of the 9 interstate commission are the formation of public policy and are a 10 discretionary state function. The interstate commission shall:

11 A. Be a body corporate and joint agency of the member states and 12 shall have all the responsibilities, powers, and duties set forth 13 herein, and such additional powers as may be conferred upon it by a 14 subsequent concurrent action of the respective legislatures of the 15 member states in accordance with the terms of this compact;

B. Consist of one interstate commission voting representative from
 each member state who shall be that state's compact commissioner.

Each member state represented at a meeting of the interstate
 commission is entitled to one vote.

20 2. A majority of the total member states shall constitute a quorum 21 for the transaction of business, unless a larger quorum is required by 22 the bylaws of the interstate commission.

3. A representative shall not delegate a vote to another member state. In the event the compact commissioner is unable to attend a meeting of the interstate commission, the governor or state council may delegate voting authority to another person from their state for a specified meeting.

4. The bylaws may provide for meetings of the interstate
commission to be conducted by telecommunication or electronic
communication;

31 C. Consist of ex officio, nonvoting representatives who are 32 members of interested organizations. Such ex officio members, as 33 defined in the bylaws, may include but not be limited to, members of 34 the representative organizations of military family advocates, local 35 education agency officials, parent and teacher groups, the U.S. 36 department of defense, the education commission of the states, the 37 interstate agreement on the qualification of educational personnel, and

1 other interstate compacts affecting the education of children of 2 military members;

3 D. Meet at least once each calendar year. The chairperson may 4 call additional meetings and, upon the request of a simple majority of 5 the member states, shall call additional meetings;

6 Ε. Establish an executive committee, whose members shall include the officers of the interstate commission and such other members of the 7 8 interstate commission as determined by the bylaws. Members of the 9 executive committee shall serve a one-year term. Members of the executive committee shall be entitled to one vote each. The executive 10 11 committee shall have the power to act on behalf of the interstate 12 commission, with the exception of rule making, during periods when the 13 interstate commission is not in session. The executive committee shall oversee the day-to-day activities of the administration of the compact 14 including enforcement and compliance with the provisions of the 15 compact, its bylaws and rules, and other such duties as deemed 16 necessary. The U.S. department of defense shall serve as an ex 17 officio, nonvoting member of the executive committee; 18

F. Establish bylaws and rules that provide for conditions and procedures under which the interstate commission shall make its information and official records available to the public for inspection or copying. The interstate commission may exempt from disclosure information or official records to the extent they would adversely affect personal privacy rights or proprietary interests;

G. Give public notice of all meetings and all meetings shall be open to the public, except as set forth in the rules or as otherwise provided in the compact. The interstate commission and its committees may close a meeting, or portion thereof, where it determines by two-thirds vote that an open meeting would be likely to:

Relate solely to the interstate commission's internal personnel
 practices and procedures;

32 2. Disclose matters specifically exempted from disclosure by33 federal and state statute;

34 3. Disclose trade secrets or commercial or financial information35 which is privileged or confidential;

36 4. Involve accusing a person of a crime, or formally censuring a37 person;

5. Disclose information of a personal nature where disclosure
 would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;

3 6. Disclose investigative records compiled for law enforcement 4 purposes; or

5 7. Specifically relate to the interstate commission's 6 participation in a civil action or other legal proceeding;

7 Η. Cause its legal counsel or designee to certify that a meeting may be closed and shall reference each relevant exemptible provision 8 for any meeting, or portion of a meeting, which is closed pursuant to 9 10 this provision. The interstate commission shall keep minutes which shall fully and clearly describe all matters discussed in a meeting and 11 12 shall provide a full and accurate summary of actions taken, and the reasons therefor, including a description of the views expressed and 13 the record of a roll call vote. All documents considered in connection 14 with an action shall be identified in such minutes. All minutes and 15 documents of a closed meeting shall remain under seal, subject to 16 17 release by a majority vote of the interstate commission;

I. Collect standardized data concerning the educational transition 18 of the children of military families under this compact as directed 19 through its rules which shall specify the data to be collected, the 20 21 means of collection, and data exchange and reporting requirements. 22 Such methods of data collection, exchange, and reporting shall, in so far as is reasonably possible, conform to current technology and 23 coordinate its information functions with the appropriate custodian of 24 25 records as identified in the bylaws and rules;

J. Create a process that permits military officials, education officials, and parents to inform the interstate commission if and when there are alleged violations of the compact or its rules or when issues subject to the jurisdiction of the compact or its rules are not addressed by the state or local education agency. This section shall not be construed to create a private right of action against the interstate commission or any member state.

33

34

ARTICLE X

POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE INTERSTATE COMMISSION

35 The interstate commission shall have the following powers:

36 A. To provide for dispute resolution among member states;

37 B. To promulgate rules and take all necessary actions to effect 38 the goals, purposes, and obligations as enumerated in this compact. The rules shall have the force and effect of statutory law and shall be binding in the compact states to the extent and in the manner provided in this compact;

C. To issue, upon request of a member state, advisory opinions
concerning the meaning or interpretation of the interstate compact, its
bylaws, rules, and actions;

D. To enforce compliance with the compact provisions, the rules promulgated by the interstate commission, and the bylaws, using all necessary and proper means, including but not limited to the use of judicial process;

11 E. To establish and maintain offices which shall be located within 12 one or more of the member states;

13 F. To purchase and maintain insurance and bonds;

G. To borrow, accept, hire, or contract for services of personnel; H. To establish and appoint committees including, but not limited to, an executive committee as required by Article IX, section E of this compact, which shall have the power to act on behalf of the interstate commission in carrying out its powers and duties hereunder;

19 I. To elect or appoint such officers, attorneys, employees, 20 agents, or consultants, and to fix their compensation, define their 21 duties, and determine their qualifications; and to establish the 22 interstate commission's personnel policies and programs relating to 23 conflicts of interest, rates of compensation, and qualifications of 24 personnel;

J. To accept any and all donations and grants of money, equipment, supplies, materials, and services, and to receive, utilize, and dispose of it;

28 K. To lease, purchase, accept contributions or donations of, or 29 otherwise to own, hold, improve, or use any property, real, personal, 30 or mixed;

L. To sell, convey, mortgage, pledge, lease, exchange, abandon, or otherwise dispose of any property, real, personal, or mixed;

33

M. To establish a budget and make expenditures;

N. To adopt a seal and bylaws governing the management and operation of the interstate commission;

36 0. To report annually to the legislatures, governors, judiciary,37 and state councils of the member states concerning the activities of

1 the interstate commission during the preceding year. Such reports 2 shall also include any recommendations that may have been adopted by 3 the interstate commission;

P. To coordinate education, training, and public awareness
regarding the compact, its implementation, and operation for officials
and parents involved in such activity;

Q. To establish uniform standards for the reporting, collecting,and exchanging of data;

9 R. To maintain corporate books and records in accordance with the 10 bylaws;

S. To perform such functions as may be necessary or appropriate to achieve the purposes of this compact; and

13 T. To provide for the uniform collection and sharing of 14 information between and among member states, schools, and military 15 families under this compact.

16

ARTICLE XI

17

ORGANIZATION AND OPERATION OF THE INTERSTATE COMMISSION

A. The interstate commission shall, by a majority of the members present and voting, within twelve months after the first interstate commission meeting, adopt bylaws to govern its conduct as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of the compact, including, but not limited to:

23

1. Establishing the fiscal year of the interstate commission;

24 2. Establishing an executive committee, and such other committees25 as may be necessary;

3. Providing for the establishment of committees and for governing
any general or specific delegation of authority or function of the
interstate commission;

4. Providing reasonable procedures for calling and conducting
 meetings of the interstate commission, and ensuring reasonable notice
 of each such meeting;

32 5. Establishing the titles and responsibilities of the officers33 and staff of the interstate commission;

6. Providing a mechanism for concluding the operations of the interstate commission and the return of surplus funds that may exist upon the termination of the compact after the payment and reserving of all of its debts and obligations; and 7. Providing "start up" rules for initial administration of the
 compact.

3 в. The interstate commission shall, by a majority of the members, 4 elect from among its members annually a chairperson, а 5 vice-chairperson, and a treasurer, each of whom shall have such authority and duties as may be specified in the bylaws. б The 7 chairperson or, in the chairperson's absence or disability, the 8 vice-chairperson, shall preside at all meetings of the interstate 9 The officers so elected shall serve without compensation commission. 10 or remuneration from the interstate commission; provided that, subject to the availability of budgeted funds, the officers shall be reimbursed 11 12 for ordinary and necessary costs and expenses incurred by them in the 13 performance of their responsibilities as officers of the interstate 14 commission.

15

C. Executive committee, officers, and personnel

The executive committee shall have such authority and duties as
 may be set forth in the bylaws, including but not limited to:

a. Managing the affairs of the interstate commission in a mannerconsistent with the bylaws and purposes of the interstate commission;

20 b. Overseeing an organizational structure within, and appropriate 21 procedures for the interstate commission to provide for the creation of 22 rules, operating procedures, and administrative and technical support 23 functions; and

24 c. Planning, implementing, and coordinating communications and 25 activities with other state, federal, and local government 26 organizations in order to advance the goals of the interstate 27 commission.

2. The executive committee may, subject to the approval of the 28 29 interstate commission, appoint or retain an executive director for such period, upon such terms and conditions and for such compensation, as 30 the interstate commission may deem appropriate. The executive director 31 32 shall serve as secretary to the interstate commission, but shall not be a member of the interstate commission. The executive director shall 33 34 hire and supervise such other persons as may be authorized by the 35 interstate commission.

36 D. The interstate commission's executive director and its 37 employees shall be immune from suit and liability, either personally or 38 in their official capacity, for a claim for damage to or loss of property or personal injury or other civil liability caused or arising out of or relating to an actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred, or that such person had a reasonable basis for believing occurred, within the scope of interstate commission employment, duties, or responsibilities; provided, that such person shall not be protected from suit or liability for damage, loss, injury, or liability caused by the intentional or willful and wanton misconduct of such person.

8 1. The liability of the interstate commission's executive director and employees or interstate commission representatives, acting within 9 10 the scope of such person's employment or duties for acts, errors, or omissions occurring within such person's state may not exceed the 11 12 limits of liability set forth under the Constitution and laws of that 13 state for state officials, employees, and agents. The interstate 14 commission is considered to be an instrumentality of the states for the purposes of any such action. Nothing in this subsection shall be 15 construed to protect such person from suit or liability for damage, 16 17 loss, injury, or liability caused by the intentional or willful and 18 wanton misconduct of such person.

The interstate commission shall defend the executive director 19 2. and its employees and, subject to the approval of the attorney general 20 21 or other appropriate legal counsel of the member state represented by 22 an interstate commission representative, shall defend such interstate 23 commission representative in any civil action seeking to impose 24 liability arising out of an actual or alleged act, error, or omission 25 that occurred within the scope of interstate commission employment, 26 duties, or responsibilities, or that the defendant had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of interstate commission 27 employment, duties, or responsibilities, provided that the actual or 28 29 alleged act, error, or omission did not result from intentional or 30 willful and wanton misconduct on the part of such person.

To the extent not covered by the state involved, member state, 31 3. 32 or the interstate commission, the representatives or employees of the interstate commission shall be held harmless in the amount of a 33 settlement or judgment, including attorneys' fees and costs, obtained 34 35 against such persons arising out of an actual or alleged act, error, or 36 omission that occurred within the scope of interstate commission 37 employment, duties, or responsibilities, or that such persons had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of interstate 38

1 commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, provided that the 2 actual or alleged act, error, or omission did not result from 3 intentional or willful and wanton misconduct on the part of such 4 persons.

ARTICLE XII

5

RULE-MAKING FUNCTIONS OF THE INTERSTATE COMMISSION

б

A. Rule-making authority - The interstate commission shall promulgate reasonable rules in order to effectively and efficiently achieve the purposes of this compact. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event the interstate commission exercises its rule-making authority in a manner that is beyond the scope of the purposes of this compact, or the powers granted hereunder, then such an action by the interstate commission shall be invalid and have no force or effect.

B. Rule-making procedure - Rules shall be made pursuant to a rulemaking process that substantially conforms to the "model state administrative procedure act," of 1981, Uniform Laws Annotated, Vol. 15, p.1 (2000) as amended, as may be appropriate to the operations of the interstate commission.

Not later than thirty days after a rule is promulgated, any 19 С. person may file a petition for judicial review of the rule; provided, 20 21 that the filing of such a petition shall not stay or otherwise prevent 22 the rule from becoming effective unless the court finds that the 23 petitioner has a substantial likelihood of success. The court shall give deference to the actions of the interstate commission consistent 24 with applicable law and shall not find the rule to be unlawful if the 25 rule represents a reasonable exercise of the interstate commission's 26 27 authority.

D. If a majority of the legislatures of the compacting states rejects a rule by enactment of a statute or resolution in the same manner used to adopt the compact, then such rule shall have no further force and effect in any compacting state.

32

33

ARTICLE XIII

OVERSIGHT, ENFORCEMENT, AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION

A. Oversight

The executive, legislative, and judicial branches of state
 government in each member state shall enforce this compact and shall

take all actions necessary and appropriate to effectuate the compact's 1 2 purposes and intent. The provisions of this compact and the rules 3 promulgated hereunder shall have standing as statutory law.

4 2. All courts shall take judicial notice of the compact and the 5 rules in any judicial or administrative proceeding in a member state pertaining to the subject matter of this compact which may affect the б 7 powers, responsibilities, or actions of the interstate commission.

8

The interstate commission shall be entitled to receive all 3. service of process in any such proceeding, and shall have standing to 9 10 intervene in the proceeding for all purposes. Failure to provide service of process to the interstate commission shall render a judgment 11 12 or order void as to the interstate commission, this compact, or 13 promulgated rules.

14 B. Default, technical assistance, suspension, and termination - If the interstate commission determines that a member state has defaulted 15 in the performance of its obligations or responsibilities under this 16 17 compact, or the bylaws or promulgated rules, the interstate commission 18 shall:

1. Provide written notice to the defaulting state and other member 19 states of the nature of the default, the means of curing the default, 20 21 and any action taken by the interstate commission. The interstate 22 commission shall specify the conditions by which the defaulting state 23 must cure its default;

24 2. Provide remedial training and specific technical assistance 25 regarding the default;

26 If the defaulting state fails to cure the default, the 3. 27 defaulting state shall be terminated from the compact upon an 28 affirmative vote of a majority of the member states and all rights, 29 privileges, and benefits conferred by this compact shall be terminated 30 from the effective date of termination. A cure of the default does not relieve the offending state of obligations or liabilities incurred 31 32 during the period of the default;

Suspension or termination of membership in the compact shall be 33 4. imposed only after all other means of securing compliance have been 34 35 exhausted. Notice of intent to suspend or terminate shall be given by 36 the interstate commission to the governor, the majority and minority 37 leaders of the defaulting state's legislature, and each of the member 38 states;

5. The state which has been suspended or terminated is responsible for all assessments, obligations, and liabilities incurred through the effective date of suspension or termination including obligations the performance of which extends beyond the effective date of suspension or termination;

6 6. The interstate commission shall not bear any costs relating to 7 any state that has been found to be in default or which has been 8 suspended or terminated from the compact, unless otherwise mutually 9 agreed upon in writing between the interstate commission and the 10 defaulting state;

11 7. The defaulting state may appeal the action of the interstate 12 commission by petitioning the U.S. District Court for the District of 13 Columbia or the federal district where the interstate commission has 14 its principal offices. The prevailing party shall be awarded all costs 15 of such litigation including reasonable attorneys' fees.

16

C. Dispute Resolution

17 1. The interstate commission shall attempt, upon the request of a 18 member state, to resolve disputes which are subject to the compact and 19 which may arise among member states and between member and nonmember 20 states.

21 2. The interstate commission shall promulgate a rule providing for 22 both mediation and binding dispute resolution for disputes as 23 appropriate.

24 D. Enforcement

The interstate commission, in the reasonable exercise of its
 discretion, shall enforce the provisions and rules of this compact.

27 2. The interstate commission, may by majority vote of the members, initiate legal action in the United State District Court for the 28 29 District of Columbia or, at the discretion of the interstate 30 commission, in the federal district where the interstate commission has its principal offices, to enforce compliance with the provisions of the 31 32 compact, and its promulgated rules and bylaws, against a member state The relief sought may include both injunctive relief and 33 in default. damages. In the event judicial enforcement is necessary the prevailing 34 35 party shall be awarded all costs of such litigation including 36 reasonable attorneys' fees.

37

3. The remedies herein shall not be the exclusive remedies of the

1 interstate commission. The interstate commission may avail itself of 2 any other remedies available under state law or the regulation of a 3 profession.

4

5

ARTICLE XIV

FINANCING OF THE INTERSTATE COMMISSION

A. The interstate commission shall pay, or provide for the payment of the reasonable expenses of its establishment, organization, and ongoing activities.

The interstate commission may levy on and collect an annual 9 Β. assessment from each member state to cover the cost of the operations 10 and activities of the interstate commission and its staff which must be 11 in a total amount sufficient to cover the interstate commission's 12 13 annual budget as approved each year. The aggregate annual assessment amount shall be allocated based upon a formula to be determined by the 14 interstate commission, which shall promulgate a rule binding upon all 15 member states. 16

17 C. The interstate commission shall not incur obligations of any 18 kind prior to securing the funds adequate to meet the same; nor shall 19 the interstate commission pledge the credit of any of the member 20 states, except by and with the authority of the member state.

21 The interstate commission shall keep accurate accounts of all D. 22 receipts and disbursements. The receipts and disbursements of the 23 interstate commission shall be subject to the audit and accounting 24 procedures established under its bylaws. However, all receipts and disbursements of funds handled by the interstate commission shall be 25 audited yearly by a certified or licensed public accountant and the 26 27 report of the audit shall be included in and become part of the annual 28 report of the interstate commission.

29 30

ARTICLE XV

MEMBER STATES, EFFECTIVE DATE, AND AMENDMENT

31

A. Any state is eligible to become a member state.

32 B. The compact shall become effective and binding upon legislative 33 enactment of the compact into law by no less than ten of the states. 34 The effective date shall be no earlier than December 1, 2007.

Thereafter it shall become effective and binding as to any other member state upon enactment of the compact into law by that state. The 1 governors of nonmember states or their designees shall be invited to 2 participate in the activities of the interstate commission on a 3 nonvoting basis prior to adoption of the compact by all states.

C. The interstate commission may propose amendments to the compact for enactment by the member states. No amendment shall become effective and binding upon the interstate commission and the member states unless and until it is enacted into law by unanimous consent of the member states.

ARTICLE XVI

WITHDRAWAL AND DISSOLUTION

11 A. Withdrawal

9

10

12 1. Once effective, the compact shall continue in force and remain 13 binding upon each and every member state; provided that a member state 14 may withdraw from the compact by specifically repealing the statute, 15 which enacted the compact into law.

2. Withdrawal from this compact shall be by the enactment of a statute repealing the same, but shall not take effect until one year after the effective date of such statute and until written notice of the withdrawal has been given by the withdrawing state to the governor of each other member jurisdiction.

3. The withdrawing state shall immediately notify the chairperson of the interstate commission in writing upon the introduction of legislation repealing this compact in the withdrawing state. The interstate commission shall notify the other member states of the withdrawing state's intent to withdraw within sixty days of its receipt thereof.

4. The withdrawing state is responsible for all assessments,
obligations, and liabilities incurred through the effective date of
withdrawal, including obligations, the performance of which extend
beyond the effective date of withdrawal.

5. Reinstatement following withdrawal of a member state shall
occur upon the withdrawing state reenacting the compact or upon such
later date as determined by the interstate commission.

34 B. Dissolution of compact

35 1. This compact shall dissolve effective upon the date of the 36 withdrawal or default of the member state which reduces the membership 37 in the compact to one member state.

2. Upon the dissolution of this compact, the compact becomes null 1 2 and void and shall be of no further force or effect, and the business and affairs of the interstate commission shall be concluded and surplus 3 funds shall be distributed in accordance with the bylaws. 4 5 ARTICLE XVII SEVERABILITY AND CONSTRUCTION 6 7 The provisions of this compact shall be severable, and if any Α. phrase, clause, sentence, or provision is deemed unenforceable, the 8 9 remaining provisions of the compact shall be enforceable. The provisions of this compact shall be liberally construed to 10 Β. 11 effectuate its purposes. Nothing in this compact shall be construed to prohibit the 12 С. 13 applicability of other interstate compacts to which the states are members. 14 15 ARTICLE XVIII 16 BINDING EFFECT OF COMPACT AND OTHER LAWS Other laws 17 Α. Nothing herein prevents the enforcement of any other law of a 18 1. 19 member state that is not inconsistent with this compact. 20 2. All member states' laws conflicting with this compact are superseded to the extent of the conflict. 21 B. Binding effect of the compact 22 All lawful actions of the interstate commission, including all 23 1. 24 rules and bylaws promulgated by the interstate commission, are binding 25 upon the member states. 2. All agreements between the interstate commission and the member 26 27 states are binding in accordance with their terms. 28 3. In the event any provision of this compact exceeds the 29 constitutional limits imposed on the legislature of any member state, 30 such provision shall be ineffective to the extent of the conflict with 31 the constitutional provision in question in that member state. Sec. 2. RCW 28A.225.330 and 2006 c 263 s 805 are each amended to 32 33 read as follows: (1) When enrolling a student who has attended school in another 34 school district, the school enrolling the student may request the 35

1 parent and the student to briefly indicate in writing whether or not 2 the student has:

3

(a) Any history of placement in special educational programs;

4 (b) Any past, current, or pending disciplinary action;

5 (c) Any history of violent behavior, or behavior listed in RCW
6 13.04.155;

7

(d) Any unpaid fines or fees imposed by other schools; and

8 (e) Any health conditions affecting the student's educational 9 needs.

10 (2) The school enrolling the student shall request the school the student previously attended to send the student's permanent record 11 12 including records of disciplinary action, history of violent behavior or behavior listed in RCW 13.04.155, attendance, immunization records, 13 14 and academic performance. If the student has not paid a fine or fee under RCW 28A.635.060, or tuition, fees, or fines at approved private 15 schools the school may withhold the student's official transcript, but 16 17 shall transmit information about the student's academic performance, special placement, immunization records, records of disciplinary 18 action, and history of violent behavior or behavior listed in RCW 19 If the official transcript is not sent due to unpaid 20 13.04.155. 21 tuition, fees, or fines, the enrolling school shall notify both the 22 student and parent or guardian that the official transcript will not be 23 sent until the obligation is met, and failure to have an official 24 transcript may result in exclusion from extracurricular activities or 25 failure to graduate.

(3) <u>Upon request, school districts shall furnish a set of</u>
<u>unofficial educational records to a parent or guardian of a student who</u>
<u>is transferring out of state and who meets the definition of a child of</u>
<u>a military family in transition under section 1, Article II of this</u>
<u>act. School districts may charge the parent or guardian the actual</u>
<u>cost of providing the copies of the records.</u>

32 (4) If information is requested under subsection (2) of this 33 section, the information shall be transmitted within two school days 34 after receiving the request and the records shall be sent as soon as 35 possible. The records of a student who meets the definition of a child 36 of a military family in transition under section 1, Article II of this 37 act shall be sent within ten days after receiving the request. Any 38 school district or district employee who releases the information in compliance with this section is immune from civil liability for damages unless it is shown that the school district employee acted with gross negligence or in bad faith. The professional educator standards board shall provide by rule for the discipline under chapter 28A.410 RCW of a school principal or other chief administrator of a public school building who fails to make a good faith effort to assure compliance with this subsection.

8 (((4))) <u>(5)</u> Any school district or district employee who releases 9 the information in compliance with federal and state law is immune from 10 civil liability for damages unless it is shown that the school district 11 or district employee acted with gross negligence or in bad faith.

12 (((5))) (6) When a school receives information under this section 13 or RCW 13.40.215 that a student has a history of disciplinary actions, 14 criminal or violent behavior, or other behavior that indicates the 15 student could be a threat to the safety of educational staff or other 16 students, the school shall provide this information to the student's 17 teachers and security personnel.

18 Sec. 3. RCW 28A.225.160 and 2006 c 263 s 703 are each amended to 19 read as follows:

20 (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section and 21 otherwise provided by law, it is the general policy of the state that 22 the common schools shall be open to the admission of all persons who 23 are five years of age and less than twenty-one years residing in that school district. Except as otherwise provided by law or rules adopted 24 25 by the superintendent of public instruction, districts may establish 26 uniform entry qualifications, including but not limited to birth date 27 requirements, for admission to kindergarten and first grade programs of the common schools. Such rules may provide for exceptions based upon 28 29 the ability, or the need, or both, of an individual student. For the purpose of complying with any rule adopted by the superintendent of 30 31 public instruction that authorizes a preadmission screening process as 32 granting exceptions to the uniform а prerequisite to entry qualifications, a school district may collect fees to cover expenses 33 34 incurred in the administration of any preadmission screening process: 35 PROVIDED, That in so establishing such fee or fees, the district shall 36 adopt ((regulations)) rules for waiving and reducing such fees in the

cases of those persons whose families, by reason of their low income,
 would have difficulty in paying the entire amount of such fees.

3 (2) A student who meets the definition of a child of a military 4 family in transition under section 1, Article II of this act shall be 5 permitted to continue enrollment at the grade level in the common 6 schools commensurate with the grade level of the student when attending 7 school in the sending state as defined in section 1, Article II of this 8 act, regardless of age or birthdate requirements.

9 Sec. 4. RCW 28A.185.030 and 1984 c 278 s 13 are each amended to 10 read as follows:

Local school districts may establish and operate, either separately or jointly, programs for highly capable students. Such authority shall include the right to employ and pay special instructors and to operate such programs jointly with a public institution of higher education. Local school districts which establish and operate programs for highly capable students shall adopt identification procedures and provide educational opportunities as follows:

18 (1) In accordance with rules ((and regulations)) adopted by the superintendent of public instruction, school districts shall implement 19 20 procedures for nomination, assessment and selection of their most 21 highly capable students. Nominations shall be based upon data from 22 teachers, other staff, parents, students, and members of the community. Assessment shall be based upon a review of each student's capability as 23 shown by multiple criteria intended to reveal, from a wide variety of 24 25 sources and data, each student's unique needs and capabilities. 26 Selection shall be made by a broadly based committee of professionals, after consideration of the results of the multiple criteria assessment. 27

(2) When a student, who is a child of a military family in transition, has been assessed or enrolled as highly capable by a sending school, the receiving school shall initially honor placement of the student into a like program.

32 (a) The receiving school shall determine whether the district's 33 program is a like program when compared to the sending school's 34 program; and

35 (b) The receiving school may conduct subsequent assessments to 36 determine appropriate placement and continued enrollment in the 37 program. 1 (3) Students selected pursuant to procedures outlined in this 2 section shall be provided, to the extent feasible, an educational 3 opportunity which takes into account each student's unique needs and 4 capabilities and the limits of the resources and program options 5 available to the district, including those options which can be 6 developed or provided by using funds allocated by the superintendent of 7 public instruction for that purpose.

8 (4) The definitions in section 1, Article II of this act apply to
9 subsection (2) of this section.

10 Sec. 5. RCW 28A.180.040 and 2001 1st sp.s. c 6 s 4 are each 11 amended to read as follows:

12 (1) Every school district board of directors shall:

13 (((+))) <u>(a)</u> Make available to each eligible pupil transitional 14 bilingual instruction to achieve competency in English, in accord with 15 rules of the superintendent of public instruction((-));

16 (((2))) (b) Wherever feasible, ensure that communications to 17 parents emanating from the schools shall be appropriately bilingual for 18 those parents of pupils in the bilingual instruction program((-));

19 (((3))) <u>(c)</u> Determine, by administration of an English test 20 approved by the superintendent of public instruction the number of 21 eligible pupils enrolled in the school district at the beginning of a 22 school year and thereafter during the year as necessary in individual 23 cases((-))<u>;</u>

(((4))) <u>(d) Ensure that a student who is a child of a military</u> family in transition and who has been assessed as in need of, or enrolled in, a bilingual instruction program, the receiving school shall initially honor placement of the student into a like program.

28 (i) The receiving school shall determine whether the district's 29 program is a like program when compared to the sending school's 30 program; and

31 (ii) The receiving school may conduct subsequent assessments 32 pursuant to RCW 28A.180.090 to determine appropriate placement and 33 continued enrollment in the program;

34 (e) Before the conclusion of each school year, measure each 35 eligible pupil's improvement in learning the English language by means 36 of a test approved by the superintendent of public instruction((-)); 37 and

(((5))) (f) Provide in-service training for teachers, counselors,
 and other staff, who are involved in the district's transitional
 bilingual program. Such training shall include appropriate
 instructional strategies for children of culturally different
 backgrounds, use of curriculum materials, and program models.

6 (2) The definitions in section 1, Article II of this act apply to
7 subsection (1)(d) of this section.

8 Sec. 6. RCW 28A.225.210 and 1990 c 33 s 235 are each amended to 9 read as follows:

10 Every school district shall admit on a tuition free basis: (1) All 11 persons of school age who reside within this state, and do not reside 12 within another school district carrying the grades for which they are PROVIDED, That nothing in this ((section)) 13 eligible to enroll: 14 subsection shall be construed as affecting RCW 28A.225.220 or 28A.225.250; and (2) all students who meet the definition of children 15 of military families in transition under section 1, Article II of this 16 act who are in the care of a noncustodial parent or other person 17 standing in loco parentis and who lives in another state while the 18 parent is under military orders. 19

20 Sec. 7. RCW 28A.225.225 and 2008 c 192 s 1 are each amended to 21 read as follows:

(1) Except for students who reside out-of-state <u>and students under</u> <u>section 8 of this act</u>, a district shall accept applications from nonresident students who are the children of full-time certificated and classified school employees, and those children shall be permitted to enroll:

27

33

(a) At the school to which the employee is assigned;

(b) At a school forming the district's K through 12 continuum whichincludes the school to which the employee is assigned; or

30 (c) At a school in the district that provides early intervention
 31 services pursuant to RCW 28A.155.065 or preschool services pursuant to
 32 RCW 28A.155.070, if the student is eligible for such services.

(2) A district may reject applications under this section if:

(a) The student's disciplinary records indicate a history of
 convictions for offenses or crimes, violent or disruptive behavior, or
 gang membership;

1 (b) The student has been expelled or suspended from a public school 2 for more than ten consecutive days. Any policy allowing for 3 readmission of expelled or suspended students under this subsection 4 (2)(b) must apply uniformly to both resident and nonresident 5 applicants; or

6 (c) Enrollment of a child under this section would displace a child 7 who is a resident of the district, except that if a child is admitted 8 under subsection (1) of this section, that child shall be permitted to 9 remain enrolled at that school, or in that district's kindergarten 10 through twelfth grade continuum, until he or she has completed his or 11 her schooling.

12 (3) Except as provided in subsection (1) of this section, all 13 districts accepting applications from nonresident students or from students receiving home-based instruction for admission to the 14 district's schools shall consider equally all applications received. 15 Each school district shall adopt a policy establishing rational, fair, 16 17 and equitable standards for acceptance and rejection of applications by 18 June 30, 1990. The policy may include rejection of a nonresident 19 student if:

20 (a) Acceptance of a nonresident student would result in the21 district experiencing a financial hardship;

(b) The student's disciplinary records indicate a history of convictions for offenses or crimes, violent or disruptive behavior, or gang membership; or

(c) The student has been expelled or suspended from a public school for more than ten consecutive days. Any policy allowing for readmission of expelled or suspended students under this subsection (3)(c) must apply uniformly to both resident and nonresident applicants.

For purposes of subsections (2)(a) and (3)(b) of this section, "gang" means a group which: (i) Consists of three or more persons; (ii) has identifiable leadership; and (iii) on an ongoing basis, regularly conspires and acts in concert mainly for criminal purposes.

(4) The district shall provide to applicants written notification
of the approval or denial of the application in a timely manner. If
the application is rejected, the notification shall include the reason
or reasons for denial and the right to appeal under RCW 28A.225.230(3).

<u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 8. A new section is added to chapter 28A.225
 RCW to read as follows:

3 (1) A student shall be permitted to remain enrolled in the school
4 in which the student was enrolled while residing with the custodial
5 parent if the student:

6 (a) Meets the definition of a child of a military family in 7 transition under section 1, Article II of this act; and

8 (b) Is placed in the care of a noncustodial parent or guardian when 9 the custodial parent is required to relocate due to military orders.

10 (2) A nonresident school district shall not be required to provide 11 transportation to and from the school unless otherwise required by 12 state or federal law.

13 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 9. By December 1, 2014, the state council, 14 created in accordance with section 1 of this act, shall conduct a 15 review of the implementation of the interstate compact on educational 16 opportunity for military children and recommend to the state 17 legislature whether Washington should continue to be a member of the 18 compact and whether any other actions should be taken.

19 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 10. Sections 1 and 9 of this act constitute a 20 new chapter in Title 28A RCW.

21 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 11.** If specific funding for the purposes of 22 this act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not 23 provided by June 30, 2009, in the omnibus appropriations act, this act 24 is null and void.

--- END ---