

ESHB 1252 - S COMM AMD

By Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education

NOT CONSIDERED

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

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that Washington
4 educators possess great skills and knowledge about both subject matter
5 content and instructional pedagogy, and that sharing this knowledge
6 with other educators benefits the entire educational system. The
7 quality of any professional development is enhanced by drawing from
8 experts in the field with deep understanding of the profession.
9 However, the legislature finds that little data is available regarding
10 the quality, quantity, or effectiveness of professional development
11 across school districts, and that a better understanding of best
12 practices would be useful to share with teachers and principals
13 statewide.

14 (2) The legislature further finds that technology provides
15 increasing opportunities for educators across Washington state to
16 access professional development regardless of the time of year, time of
17 day, or geographic location, as well as share best practices,
18 experiences, and skills with others. The legislature recognizes that
19 online professional development does not replace in-person, face-to-
20 face dialogue among educators. National standards for professional
21 development emphasize the creation of professional learning communities
22 where educators come together to analyze data, set goals, coach one
23 another, and continuously improve their practice. However, the power
24 and reach of the internet to provide information, resources, videos,
25 and forums for discussion should be harnessed so that all teachers and
26 principals in all districts within the state have free, open access to
27 high quality, robust, and relevant professional development focused on
28 improving instruction and instructional practices. Specialized
29 professional development for principals should include instructional

1 and noninstructional modules such as financial and building management,
2 evaluation methodologies, team building, and community relations, among
3 other topics.

4 (3) Therefore it is the legislature's intent to create a dynamic,
5 real-time, and interactive online professional development system to
6 augment the current system. The online professional development system
7 will be designed, managed, and implemented by Washington educators.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.415
9 RCW to read as follows:

10 (1) Subject to funds appropriated specifically for this purpose,
11 the Washington K-12 online professional development project is
12 established. The purpose of the project is to make online professional
13 development modules for K-12 teachers and principals available on
14 demand and at no cost to any educator who chooses to use them.

15 (2) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall
16 develop a request for proposals and select through a competitive
17 process an applicant to serve as the contracted facilitator and
18 administrator for the Washington K-12 online professional development
19 project. School districts, educational service districts, institutions
20 of higher education, and public or private entities or organizations
21 may apply. The facilitator must:

22 (a) Appoint and convene a steering committee of K-12 educators that
23 shall be responsible for the overall design and structure of the
24 project, identifying the topics for the online professional development
25 modules, and preparing the project evaluation and report to the
26 legislature;

27 (b) Oversee and provide support for creation of the professional
28 development modules by K-12 educators;

29 (c) Provide necessary technical support and infrastructure for the
30 project; and

31 (d) Actively seek public-private partnerships in the development
32 and implementation of the project.

33 (3) The professional development modules for the project must
34 incorporate a variety of media, including demonstration videos, links
35 to research and resources, webinars, and discussion forums. The
36 project must include modules that incorporate hybrid learning through

1 a combination of online and face-to-face collegial interaction among
2 educators. The project must also provide for data collection on usage
3 and customer feedback.

4 (4) The professional development modules must cover a range of
5 topics, including but not limited to:

6 (a) Academic content that is aligned with and supports the common
7 core state standards;

8 (b) Strategies for improving instructional practice, pedagogy, and
9 classroom management;

10 (c) Strategies for closing the educational opportunity gap and
11 providing specialized instruction for low-achieving students, English
12 language learners, and students in special education; and

13 (d) Topics of particular interest to principals, such as effective
14 leadership, managing people and resources, and community and parent
15 involvement.

16 (5) Each professional development module must contain an end-of-
17 module assessment that documents the user's successful completion.

18 (6) Completion of the online professional development modules under
19 this section may only be considered approved in-service training for
20 purposes of the statewide salary allocation schedule according to rules
21 adopted by the professional educator standards board under section 3 of
22 this act and only after the rules take effect.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.415
24 RCW to read as follows:

25 The professional educator standards board shall adopt rules, in
26 consultation with the office of superintendent of public instruction,
27 that establish standards for minimum content, documentation of
28 participation, and verification of completion of the online
29 professional development modules developed under section 2 of this act
30 in order for completion of the modules to be considered equivalent to
31 clock hours of approved in-service training under RCW 28A.415.020.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The steering committee for the Washington
33 K-12 online professional development project must submit a status
34 report to the education committees of the legislature by December 1,
35 2015. At a minimum, the report must address the following topics:

- 1 (1) Data on usage of the professional development modules by
2 teachers and principals;
- 3 (2) Customer feedback on the usefulness of the modules and how to
4 improve the system;
- 5 (3) Recommendations and estimated costs to maintain and regularly
6 refresh the professional development modules; and
- 7 (4) Recommendations for expanding the reach and improving the
8 usefulness of the project.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** The joint legislative audit and review
10 committee must conduct an analysis of K-12 professional development for
11 teachers and principals. The purpose of the analysis is to improve the
12 baseline understanding of policymakers regarding the level of public
13 school resources currently expended to support professional
14 development, the sources of funds, the type and content of professional
15 development purchased, and the extent that professional development is
16 based on individual preference, professional growth plans, school
17 instructional teams, or district priorities. For the purposes of the
18 analysis, "professional development" includes both traditional forms
19 such as seminars, conferences, courses, or training sessions and
20 nontraditional, job-embedded forms such as dedicated time for
21 instructional teams to examine student data, coaching and mentoring,
22 and professional learning communities. In the analysis, the committee
23 must use both qualitative and quantitative methods, access statewide
24 data to the extent available and informative, and select a sample of
25 school districts for more detailed review. The analysis must be
26 submitted to the legislature by December 1, 2014.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** If specific funding for the purposes of
28 sections 2, 3, and 4 of this act, referencing sections 2, 3, and 4 of
29 this act by bill or chapter number and section number, is not provided
30 by June 30, 2013, in the omnibus appropriations act, sections 2, 3, and
31 4 of this act are null and void.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** If specific funding for the purposes of
33 section 5 of this act, referencing section 5 of this act by bill or
34 chapter number and section number, is not provided by June 30, 2013, in

1 the omnibus appropriations act, section 5 of this act is null and
2 void."

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3 On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "principals;" strike the
4 remainder of the title and insert "adding new sections to chapter
5 28A.415 RCW; and creating new sections."

EFFECT: Corrects a codification error. Requires the Professional Educator Standards Board to adopt rules regarding the online professional development program in consultation with the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

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