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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6195**

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**State of Washington**

**64th Legislature**

**2016 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Early Learning & K-12 Education (originally sponsored by Senators Rivers, Rolfes, Litzow, and Billig)

READ FIRST TIME 01/29/16.

1 AN ACT Relating to basic education obligations; creating new  
2 sections; making appropriations; providing an expiration date; and  
3 declaring an emergency.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** INTENT. During the past two biennia, the  
6 legislature has demonstrated its commitment to funding education  
7 through strong bipartisan support for funding its statutory formulas  
8 for: Pupil transportation; materials, supplies, and operating costs;  
9 full-day kindergarten; and class size reductions. In the 2015-2017  
10 biennial budget, the legislature specifically increased funding to  
11 reduce class sizes in grades K-3. The legislature further included  
12 the previously scheduled 2017-2019 biennium completion of K-3 class  
13 size reduction funding in its adopted four-year budget outlook. The  
14 legislature has planned for and is fully committed to completing the  
15 scheduled phase in of K-3 class size reduction in the 2017-2019  
16 biennium.

17 The state is fully committed to funding its program of basic  
18 education as defined in statute and to eliminating school district  
19 dependency on local levies for implementation of the state's program  
20 of basic education. It is the intent of the legislature to provide  
21 state funding for competitive salaries and benefits that are

1 sufficient to hire and retain competent certificated instructional  
2 staff, administrators, and classified staff. Additionally, the  
3 legislature intends to minimize any disruptive impact to school  
4 districts and taxpayers.

5 The legislature finds that the lack of transparency in school  
6 district data regarding how districts use local levy funds limits its  
7 ability to make informed decisions concerning teacher compensation.  
8 Previous studies have analyzed market data for educator compensation  
9 and have provided recommendations on revisions to state allocation  
10 formulas, but these studies did not provide data and analysis of  
11 compensation paid by districts above basic education salary  
12 allocations above the statutory prototypical school model, the source  
13 of funding for this compensation, and the duties, uses, or categories  
14 for which that compensation is paid. This foundational data is  
15 necessary to inform the legislature's decisions.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** EDUCATION FUNDING TASK FORCE ESTABLISHED.

17 (1) The education funding task force is established to continue the  
18 work of the governor's informal work group to review the data and  
19 analysis provided by the consultant retained under section 3 of this  
20 act and must make recommendations to the legislature on implementing  
21 the program of basic education as defined in statute.

22 (2) Using the data and analysis provided by the consultant and  
23 the previous body of work provided to the legislature, the task force  
24 must, at a minimum, make recommendations for compensation that is  
25 sufficient to hire and retain the staff funded under the statutory  
26 prototypical school funding model and an associated salary allocation  
27 model. The recommendations must also include provisions indicating  
28 whether:

29 (a) A system for future salary adjustments should be incorporated  
30 into the salary allocation model and if so, the method for providing  
31 the adjustment; and

32 (b) A local labor market adjustment formula should be  
33 incorporated into the salary allocation model and if so, the method  
34 for providing the adjustment. This must include considerations for  
35 rural and remote districts and districts with economic and  
36 distressing factors that affect recruitment and retention.

37 (3) The task force must review the report on addressing the  
38 problem of teacher shortages prepared by the professional educator  
39 standards board. The task force must make recommendations for

1 improving or expanding existing educator recruitment and retention  
2 programs.

3 (4) The task force must also make recommendations regarding:

4 (a) Local maintenance and operation levies and local effort  
5 assistance;

6 (b) Local school district collective bargaining;

7 (c) Clarifying the distinction between services provided as part  
8 of the state's statutory program of basic education and services that  
9 may be provided as local enrichment;

10 (d) Required district reporting, accounting, and transparency of  
11 data and expenditures;

12 (e) The provision and funding method for school employee health  
13 benefits; and

14 (f) Sources of state revenue to support the state's statutory  
15 program of basic education.

16 (5) The task force consists of the following members:

17 (a) Eight legislators, with two members from each of the two  
18 largest caucuses of the senate appointed by the leaders of each of  
19 the two largest caucuses of the senate, and two members from each of  
20 the two largest caucuses of the house of representatives appointed by  
21 the speaker of the house of representatives; and

22 (b) The governor or the governor's designee as a nonvoting member  
23 to serve as facilitator.

24 (6) Recommendations of the task force require the affirmative  
25 vote of six of its members.

26 (7) Staff support for the task force must be provided by the  
27 house of representatives office of program research and senate  
28 committee services, with additional staff support provided by the  
29 office of financial management.

30 (8) Meetings of the task force shall be open to the public. The  
31 task force shall solicit input from the public through a period of  
32 open public comment at task force meetings. The comment period may be  
33 limited to ensure that the task force has sufficient time to conduct  
34 all of its business.

35 (9) The expenses of the task force must be paid jointly by the  
36 senate and the house of representatives. Task force expenditures are  
37 subject to approval by the senate facilities and operations committee  
38 and the house of representatives executive rules committee, or their  
39 successor committees.

1 (10) The task force recommendations and any supporting  
2 legislation must be submitted to the legislature by January 9, 2017.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** ANALYSIS OF K-12 PUBLIC SCHOOL STAFF  
4 COMPENSATION. (1) In consultation with the education funding task  
5 force established in section 2 of this act, the Washington state  
6 institute for public policy shall contract for independent  
7 professional consulting services to:

8 (a) Collect K-12 public school staff total compensation data, and  
9 within that data, provide an analysis of compensation paid in  
10 addition to basic education salary allocations under the statutory  
11 prototypical school model, source of funding, and the duties, uses,  
12 or categories for which that compensation is paid;

13 (b) Identify market rate salaries that are comparable to each of  
14 the staff types in the prototypical school funding model; and

15 (c) Provide analysis regarding whether a local labor market  
16 adjustment formula should be implemented and if so which market  
17 adjustment factors and methods should be used.

18 (2) The superintendent of public instruction must collect, and  
19 school districts and other applicable local education agencies must  
20 provide, compensation data necessary to implement this section with  
21 sufficient time for the consultant to accomplish the work required by  
22 this section. Data must be in the format necessary to meet the needs  
23 of the consultant. The superintendent of public instruction must  
24 provide this information to the Washington state institute for public  
25 policy, the office of financial management, and the education funding  
26 task force, for use by the consultant and the task force.

27 (3) The consultant must provide an interim report to the  
28 education funding task force and the governor by September 1, 2016.

29 (4) The consultant's final data and analysis must be provided to  
30 the education funding task force and the governor by November 15,  
31 2016.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** LOCAL LEVIES—LEGISLATIVE ACTION.  
33 Legislative action must be taken by 2018 to reform school district  
34 levies, including addressing the scheduled reductions in school  
35 district levy authority percentages, the levy base due to the  
36 scheduled elimination of certain nonbasic education revenues that the  
37 school districts did not actually receive, and local effort  
38 assistance due to the reductions in levy authority and the levy base.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 5.**    APPROPRIATIONS. (1) The sum of two hundred  
2 fifty thousand dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is  
3 appropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, from the  
4 general fund to The Evergreen State College to fund the Washington  
5 state institute for public policy contract with independent  
6 professional consulting services as required in section 3 of this  
7 act.

8        (2) The sum of two hundred fifty thousand dollars, or as much  
9 thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the fiscal year  
10 ending June 30, 2017, from the general fund to The Evergreen State  
11 College to fund the Washington state institute for public policy  
12 contract with independent professional consulting services as  
13 required in section 3 of this act.

14        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 6.**    EXPIRATION DATE. This act expires June 30,  
15 2017.

16        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 7.**    This act is necessary for the immediate  
17 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of  
18 the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes  
19 effect immediately.

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