## SENATE BILL REPORT HB 2266

As Reported by Senate Committee On: Early Learning & K-12 Education, February 19, 2018

**Title**: An act relating to clarifying the nature of the driver training education curriculum developed and maintained by the department of licensing and the office of the superintendent of public instruction.

**Brief Description**: Clarifying the nature of the driver training education curriculum developed and maintained by the department of licensing and the office of the superintendent of public instruction.

**Sponsors**: Representatives Hayes, Kilduff, Muri, Young, Appleton and Harris.

**Brief History:** Passed House: 1/31/18, 94-0.

Committee Activity: Early Learning & K-12 Education: 2/15/18, 2/19/18 [DPA].

## **Brief Summary of Amended Bill**

- Clarifies that the driver training education curriculum developed and maintained by the Department of Licensing (DOL) and the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) is the core curriculum for driver training education courses.
- Requires any supplemental curriculum used by a private driver training school to be displayed with the required core curriculum at the school's established place of business.
- Incorporates approved private schools to the definition of traffic safety education program.

## SENATE COMMITTEE ON EARLY LEARNING & K-12 EDUCATION

**Majority Report**: Do pass as amended.

Signed by Senators Wellman, Chair; Rolfes, Vice Chair; Zeiger, Ranking Member; Billig, Hunt, Mullet, Padden, Pedersen and Rivers.

**Staff**: Benjamin Omdal (786-7442)

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

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**Background:** <u>Driver Training Education.</u> In 2017, the Legislature enacted legislation which required DOL and OSPI to jointly develop and maintain a curriculum for school districts, approved private schools, and private driver training schools operating a traffic safety education program. This curriculum must be prepared by August 1, 2018, and must be developed in consultation with Central Washington University traffic safety instructors or program content developers.

Any school district or approved private school that offers driver training education courses must certify to DOL that:

- the district or school is operating a driver training education program;
- the driver training education course follows the curriculum set by OSPI and DOL, meets course delivery standards—set by OSPI, and that a compliant record retention policy is in place; and
- the district or school has verified that all instructors are authorized by the superintendent to teach a driver training education course.

In addition to the required curriculum, private driver training education schools may use a supplemental curriculum.

**Summary of Amended Bill**: The curriculum developed jointly by DOL and OSPI is designated as the core curriculum for driver training education courses.

Private driver training schools must display a copy of the required core curriculum, and must also display a copy of any supplemental curriculum in use by the school. These curricula must be displayed in a place where they can be seen by all clients.

The definition of traffic safety education program is modified to include approved private schools.

**EFFECT OF EARLY LEARNING & K-12 EDUCATION COMMITTEE AMENDMENT(S)**: Core curriculum is defined as the curriculum that is developed and maintained by OSPI and DOL, must be taught in approved driver education courses, and contains standards that must be attained in order to complete the course.

**Appropriation**: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Creates Committee/Commission/Task Force that includes Legislative members: No.

**Effective Date**: The bill takes effect on August 1, 2018.

**Staff Summary of Public Testimony on House Bill**: *The committee recommended a different version of the bill than what was heard*. PRO: Clarifying driver education curriculum standards will help ensure that private driving schools may use their programs that they have developed. Private driving education schools have spent large amounts of time and energy in training and curriculum development; greater clarity in state law will help ensure their ability to educate Washington drivers.

**Persons Testifying**: PRO: Representative Dave Hayes, Prime Sponsor; Alex Hansen, Washington Traffic Safety Education Association (WTSEA).

Persons Signed In To Testify But Not Testifying: No one.

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