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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1803**

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**State of Washington**

**67th Legislature**

**2022 Regular Session**

**By** House Education (originally sponsored by Representatives Callan, Harris, Dolan, Davis, Ramos, Santos, Senn, Sullivan, Pollet, and Frame)

READ FIRST TIME 01/31/22.

1 AN ACT Relating to updating school district director compensation  
2 through the revision and preservation of a uniform compensation  
3 structure and an examination of future needs; amending RCW  
4 28A.343.400 and 28A.320.050; adding a new section to chapter 28A.300  
5 RCW; creating a new section; and providing an expiration date.

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

7 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.343.400 and 1987 c 307 s 2 are each amended to  
8 read as follows:

9 (1) Each member of the board of directors of a school district  
10 may receive compensation of ((fifty dollars)) \$100 per day or portion  
11 thereof for attending board meetings and for performing other  
12 services on behalf of the school district, not to exceed ((four  
13 thousand eight hundred dollars)) \$7,800 per year((, if the district  
14 board of directors has authorized by board resolution, at a regularly  
15 scheduled meeting, the provision of such compensation. A board of  
16 directors of a school district may authorize such compensation only  
17 from locally collected excess levy funds available for that purpose,  
18 and compensation for board members shall not cause the state to incur  
19 any present or future funding obligation)). Compensation provided to  
20 a director under this section that is in excess of \$3,000 per year

1 must be authorized by the board of directors at a regularly scheduled  
2 meeting.

3 (2) Any director may waive all or any portion of his or her  
4 compensation under this section as to any month or months during his  
5 or her term of office, by a written waiver filed with the district as  
6 provided in this section. The waiver, to be effective, must be filed  
7 any time after the director's election and before the date on which  
8 the compensation would otherwise be paid. The waiver shall specify  
9 the month or period of months for which it is made.

10 (3) The compensation provided (~~(is)~~) under this section shall be  
11 in addition to any reimbursement for expenses paid to such directors  
12 by the school district.

13 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.320.050 and 1977 c 73 s 1 are each amended to  
14 read as follows:

15 (1) The actual expenses of school directors in going to,  
16 returning from, and attending upon directors' meetings or other  
17 meetings called or held pursuant to statute, including costs for  
18 child care, shall be paid.

19 (2) Likewise, the expenses of school superintendents and other  
20 school representatives chosen by the directors to attend any  
21 conferences or meetings or to attend to any urgent business at the  
22 behest of the state superintendent of public instruction or the board  
23 of directors shall be paid.

24 (3) The board of directors may pay the actual and necessary  
25 expenses for travel, lodging, and meals a superintendent candidate  
26 incurs when he or she attends an employment interview in the school  
27 district.

28 (4) The school directors, school superintendents, other school  
29 representatives, or superintendent candidates may be advanced  
30 sufficient sums to cover their anticipated expenses in accordance  
31 with rules and regulations promulgated by the state auditor and which  
32 shall substantially conform to the procedures provided in RCW  
33 43.03.150 through 43.03.210.

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.300  
35 RCW to read as follows:

36 (1) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this  
37 specific purpose, the office of the superintendent of public  
38 instruction shall annually distribute funds to each school district

1 in an amount equaling \$3,000 per year for each member of the board of  
2 directors. Funds provided to school districts in accordance with this  
3 section may only be used for school director compensation provided  
4 under RCW 28A.343.400.

5 (2) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall  
6 adopt rules to implement this section.

7 (3) This section applies beginning with the 2022-23 school year.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) The department of commerce shall

9 examine actual and potential school director compensation, including  
10 salaries, per diem rates, expense reimbursements, and health care  
11 benefits for the purpose of determining what changes in statute or  
12 practice, if any, would be necessary to align provisions governing  
13 school director compensation with those governing the compensation of  
14 other elected officials with comparable duties and responsibilities.

15 (2) The examination required by this section, at a minimum, must  
16 address:

17 (a) The duties and responsibilities of school directors and to  
18 what extent those duties, and the factors relevant to their  
19 completion, may have changed in the previous 10 years;

20 (b) Demographic data about school district boards of directors  
21 and the communities they represent for the purpose of understanding  
22 the diversity of school district boards of directors and whether that  
23 diversity reflects the communities they serve;

24 (c) The significant variances in school district budgets, student  
25 enrollments, tax bases, and revenues;

26 (d) Options for periodically updating school director  
27 compensation, including the frequency and timing of potential  
28 compensation reviews, potential entities that may be qualified to  
29 conduct the reviews, and considerations related to inflationary  
30 indices or other measures that reflect cost of living changes; and

31 (e) Options for funding the actual and potential costs of school  
32 director compensation, including salaries, per diem amounts, expense  
33 reimbursements, and health care benefits.

34 (3) In completing the examination required by this section, the  
35 department of commerce shall consult with interested parties,  
36 including the office of the superintendent of public instruction, the  
37 Washington state school directors' association, the Washington  
38 association of school administrators, and educational service  
39 districts.

1           (4) The department of commerce shall, in accordance with RCW  
2 43.01.036, report its findings and recommendations to the governor,  
3 the superintendent of public instruction, and the committees of the  
4 legislature with jurisdiction over fiscal matters and K-12 education  
5 by November 18, 2022.

6           (5) This section expires June 30, 2023.

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