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HOUSE BILL 1803

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State of Washington

67th Legislature

2022 Regular Session

By Representatives Callan, Harris, Dolan, Davis, Ramos, Santos, Senn, Sullivan, Pollet, and Frame

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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; creating a new section; and providing an  
5 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)~~) \$128 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~~) \$12,288 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 under this section shall not cause  
19 the state to incur any present or future funding obligation.

20 (2) Any director may waive all or any portion of his or her  
21 compensation under this section as to any month or months during his

1 or her term of office, by a written waiver filed with the district as  
2 provided in this section. The waiver, to be effective, must be filed  
3 any time after the director's election and before the date on which  
4 the compensation would otherwise be paid. The waiver shall specify  
5 the month or period of months for which it is made.

6 (3) The compensation provided (~~(in)~~) under this section shall be  
7 in addition to any reimbursement for expenses paid to such directors  
8 by the school district.

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

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

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

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

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

30 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) The office of financial management  
31 shall examine actual and potential school director compensation,  
32 including salaries, per diem rates, expense reimbursements, and  
33 health care benefits for the purpose of determining what changes in  
34 statute or practice, if any, would be necessary to align provisions  
35 governing school director compensation with those governing the  
36 compensation of other elected officials with comparable duties and  
37 responsibilities.

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

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

6 (b) The significant variances in school district budgets, student  
7 enrollments, tax bases, and revenues;

8 (c) Options for periodically updating school director  
9 compensation, including the frequency and timing of potential  
10 compensation reviews, potential entities that may be qualified to  
11 conduct the reviews, and considerations related to inflationary  
12 indices or other measures that reflect cost of living changes; and

13 (d) Options for funding the actual and potential costs of school  
14 director compensation, including salaries, per diem amounts, expense  
15 reimbursements, and health care benefits.

16 (3) In completing the examination required by this section, the  
17 office of financial management shall consult with interested parties,  
18 including the office of the superintendent of public instruction, the  
19 Washington state school directors' association, the Washington  
20 association of school administrators, and educational service  
21 districts.

22 (4) The office of financial management shall, in accordance with  
23 RCW 43.01.036, report its findings and recommendations to the  
24 governor, the superintendent of public instruction, and the  
25 committees of the legislature with jurisdiction over fiscal matters  
26 and K-12 education by November 18, 2022.

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

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