

**E2SHB 1692** - S COMM AMD

By Committee on State Government & Elections

Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the following:

"NEW SECTION.     **Sec. 1.**     The legislature finds that people participating in their government is an essential part of developing public policy. Familiarizing students with their representative government's policy development process increases social responsibility and civic awareness that will benefit them now as students and later as adults, while improving our state. The legislature further finds that policymakers can benefit from the input of students presently in our kindergarten through grade 12 school system and those attending a community or technical college, sharing insights and ideas on education and other issues affecting youth in our state. Therefore, the legislature intends to establish student councils, including 49 legislative district student councils each representing one legislative district to ensure proportional and geographical representation, to allow students to learn about and participate in our representative democracy and share policy ideas with their state elected officials.

NEW SECTION.     **Sec. 2.**     (1) A legislative district student council is established in each legislative district. Legislative district student councils are informal nonpartisan advisory bodies that may examine issues affecting youth and education and make recommendations to the legislative youth advisory council on those issues.

(2) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall select a statewide organization with more than 20 years' experience that provides leadership opportunities to students to complete the following tasks, consistent with the provisions of this act, by August 1, 2025:

(a) Develop processes and procedures that may be used to set up legislative district student councils;

1 (b) Contribute to the development of an application and selection  
2 process that may be used to select student members to serve on the  
3 council, including for the position of chair for each legislative  
4 district student council;

5 (c) Develop model practices regarding increasing student  
6 engagement; and

7 (d) Distribute information to students in qualifying schools  
8 about participating in a legislative district student council,  
9 including the application process and timeline.

10 (3) Each legislative district student council is composed of no  
11 more than seven student members as follows:

12 (a) One chair for each legislative district student council. The  
13 organization selected in subsection (2) of this section shall select  
14 the initial chairs for councils in legislative districts no later  
15 than October 1, 2025. Subsequent chairs shall be selected no later  
16 than June 1, 2027, and each June 1st every two years thereafter.

17 (b) One vice chair for each legislative district student council.  
18 The youth civic engagement council member from the respective  
19 legislative district shall serve as the vice chair for that  
20 district's legislative district student council.

21 (c) To the greatest extent possible, the Washington state school  
22 directors' association shall select up to two student board  
23 representatives from each legislative district who attend a  
24 qualifying school that serves students in any of grades nine through  
25 12 and are members of the Washington state school directors'  
26 association's student representatives network to be members in that  
27 district's legislative district student council.

28 (d) (i) At least three additional members who are under the age of  
29 21 at the start of their term and attend either a qualifying school  
30 that serves students in any of grades nine through 12 or a community  
31 or technical college that is located within that student council's  
32 legislative district.

33 (ii) Factors to consider for selection of the members described  
34 in this subsection (3) (d) include:

35 (A) Balancing representation among the various grades, with at  
36 least one student being in grade 11 and one being in grade 12; and

37 (B) Selecting students who have demonstrated a commitment to  
38 civic education through current participation in another local youth  
39 council.

1 (iii)(A) For the selection of initial members described in this  
2 subsection (3)(d) for new legislative district student councils, a  
3 committee consisting of the chairs of each legislative district  
4 student council shall meet for the purpose of selecting members for  
5 each legislative district student council from the applications  
6 submitted. Initial members must be selected by November 15, 2025.

7 (B) Subsequent selection of members described in this subsection  
8 (3)(d) shall be the responsibility of each legislative district  
9 student council and must occur no later than October 1, 2027, and on  
10 October 1st every two years thereafter.

11 (4) To the greatest extent feasible, the members of each  
12 legislative district student council must attend either a qualifying  
13 school that serves students in any of grades nine through 12 or a  
14 community or technical college that is in their council's legislative  
15 district. If there are no applicants from a legislative district,  
16 eligible students who attend a qualifying school that serves students  
17 in any of grades nine through 12 or a community or technical college  
18 located in an adjacent legislative district may be selected for  
19 membership.

20 (5) Membership terms are as follows:

21 (a) Of the chairs initially selected, each chair shall serve two-  
22 year terms, except that students who are in grade 12 shall serve a  
23 one-year term but may serve the full two-year term if they attend a  
24 community or technical college within the student council's  
25 legislative district in the following year. The term of each  
26 subsequent chair shall be two years, and qualifying chairs may be  
27 selected for subsequent two-year terms.

28 (b) Of the members initially selected to serve on a legislative  
29 district student council, two members shall serve one-year terms, and  
30 all other members shall serve two-year terms. Members initially  
31 selected to serve on a legislative district student council who are  
32 in grade 12 shall serve a one-year term but may serve the full two-  
33 year term if they attend a community or technical college within the  
34 student council's legislative district in the following year. The  
35 term of each subsequent eligible member shall be two years, and  
36 members may be selected for subsequent two-year terms.

37 (c) In the case of a vacancy, the selection of a student member  
38 to fill the remainder of an unexpired term must be conducted in the  
39 same manner as the original appointment.

1 (6) Each student council may not conduct more than four in-person  
2 meetings, with one of the in-person meetings occurring in person in  
3 Olympia on the day of youth civic education organized by the  
4 legislative youth advisory council, in collaboration with the student  
5 representative network, pursuant to RCW 43.15.095(6)(e). The student  
6 councils are encouraged to use technology, such as remote  
7 videoconferencing technology, to conduct additional virtual meetings.

8 (7) The legislature, any agency of the legislature, and any  
9 official or employee of such office or agency is immune from  
10 liability for any injury that is incurred by or caused by a member of  
11 the legislative district student council and that occurs while the  
12 member of the council is performing duties of the council. The  
13 immunity provided by this subsection does not apply to an injury  
14 intentionally caused by the act or omission of an employee or  
15 official of the office of the legislature or any agency of the  
16 legislature.

17 (8) When engaging in outreach and recruiting efforts to educate  
18 students and schools about opportunities to participate in a  
19 legislative district student council, and when creating an  
20 application and selection process as described in subsection (2) of  
21 this section, the lieutenant governor, the organization selected in  
22 subsection (2) of this section, and the Washington state school  
23 directors' association, as applicable, shall comply with the  
24 principles of the state pro-equity antiracism plan and playbook  
25 developed by the office of equity to bridge opportunity gaps, reduce  
26 disparities, and increase diversity of student membership.

27 (9) As used in this section:

28 (a) "Qualifying school" means a public school as defined in RCW  
29 28A.150.010, a private school approved under chapter 28A.195 RCW, or  
30 home-based instruction as defined in RCW 28A.225.010.

31 (b) "Student board representative" has the same meaning as in  
32 section 4 of this act.

33 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) The organization selected in section  
34 2(2) of this act shall, by December 31, 2025, and in compliance with  
35 RCW 43.01.036, submit a report to the legislature that details the  
36 following:

37 (a) The number of legislative district student councils that have  
38 been established pursuant to section 2 of this act;

(b) The legislative district of each legislative district student council;

(c) A list of schools represented on legislative district student councils;

(d) Grade levels represented on legislative district student councils; and

(e) The demographics of student members on each legislative district student council. The data must be disaggregated by categories listed in RCW 28A.642.010 and by legislative district student council.

(2) This section expires January 31, 2026.

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.345 RCW to read as follows:

(1) The Washington state school directors' association shall form a student representative network to examine issues important to youth and engage student school board representatives in the legislative process.

(2) Subject to the supervision of the Washington state school directors' association, the duties of the student representative network are as follows:

(a) Advise the legislature through feedback and testimony on proposed and pending legislation, including policy matters relating to youth;

(b) Advise the standing committees of the legislature and study commissions, committees, and task forces through feedback and testimony on issues relating to youth;

(c) Collaborate with the legislative youth advisory council established under RCW 43.15.095 to organize an in-person annual day of youth civic education in Olympia;

(d) Develop and assemble resources for new and existing student board representatives;

(e) Provide writing, photos, and other content for the Washington state school directors' association publications in consultation with Washington state school directors' association staff;

(f) Collaborate with the Washington state school directors' association standing committees, advisory committees, task forces, and caucuses as invited; and

1 (g) Provide additional student voices at Washington state school  
2 directors' association events in consultation with Washington state  
3 school directors' association staff.

4 (3) When acting on behalf of the student representative network,  
5 advocacy position and policy recommendations from network members  
6 shall be in accordance with the Washington state school directors'  
7 association's approved positions. When acting on behalf of individual  
8 school districts, legislative district student councils, or the  
9 legislative youth advisory council established under RCW 43.15.095,  
10 advocacy positions and policy recommendations made by network members  
11 are considered independent from the Washington state school  
12 directors' association.

13 (4) In supporting the student representative network, the  
14 Washington state school directors' association shall provide network  
15 members with the ability to learn about education policy issues and  
16 determine best practices for establishing and supporting student  
17 councils. Additionally, the Washington state school directors'  
18 association shall facilitate a connection between network members and  
19 the legislators in their legislative districts.

20 (5) All student board representatives are members of the student  
21 representative network. The Washington state school directors'  
22 association shall engage in outreach annually to each school district  
23 to provide information about the student representative network. To  
24 the greatest extent feasible, the Washington state school directors'  
25 association shall identify at least one student board representative  
26 from each legislative district to participate in the student  
27 representative network. In legislative districts where there are no  
28 established student board representatives, the Washington state  
29 school directors' association shall communicate with school districts  
30 to create awareness of and share best practices about the role and to  
31 encourage participation.

32 (6) The Washington state school directors' association shall  
33 invite legislators to participate in the student representative  
34 network in an advisory capacity.

35 (7) The student representative network shall meet at least four  
36 times per year. The number of in-person meetings may not exceed four.

37 (8) The Washington state school directors' association, the  
38 legislature, any agency of the legislature, and any official or  
39 employee of such office or agency is immune from liability for any  
40 injury that is incurred by or caused by a member of the student

1 representative network and that occurs while the member of the  
2 network is performing duties of the network or is otherwise engaged  
3 in activities or receiving services for which reimbursement is  
4 allowed under RCW 43.15.095(8). The immunity provided by this  
5 subsection does not apply to an injury intentionally caused by the  
6 act or omission of an employee or official of the Washington state  
7 school directors' association, the legislature, or any agency of the  
8 legislature.

9 (9) In compliance with RCW 43.01.036, the student representative  
10 network, in consultation and with the support of Washington state  
11 school directors' association staff, shall report on December 1st of  
12 each year to the appropriate committees of the legislature on the  
13 number of student board representatives in Washington and the  
14 activities of the network.

15 (10) As used in this section, "student board representative"  
16 means a student who is recognized by their local school board as a  
17 representative of the student body serving on that board.

18 **Sec. 5.** RCW 43.15.095 and 2022 c 96 s 6 are each amended to read  
19 as follows:

20 (1) The legislative youth advisory council is established to  
21 examine issues of importance to youth, including but not limited to  
22 education, employment, strategies to increase youth participation in  
23 state and municipal government, safe environments for youth,  
24 substance abuse, emotional and physical health, foster care, poverty,  
25 homelessness, and youth access to services on a statewide and  
26 municipal basis.

27 (2) The council consists of at least (~~((twenty-two))~~) 22 members as  
28 provided in this subsection who, at the time of appointment, are  
29 (~~((aged))~~) age (~~((fourteen to eighteen))~~) 14 to 18. The council shall  
30 select a chair from among its members.

31 (3) Members shall serve two-year terms and, if eligible, may be  
32 reappointed for subsequent two-year terms.

33 (4)(a) Students may apply annually to be considered for  
34 participation in the program by completing an online application form  
35 and submitting the application to the legislative youth advisory  
36 council. The council may develop selection criteria and an  
37 application review process. The council shall recommend candidates  
38 whose names will be submitted to the office of the lieutenant

1 governor for final selection. The office of the lieutenant governor  
2 shall notify all applicants of the final selections.

3 (b) The office of the lieutenant governor shall make the  
4 application available on the lieutenant governor's website.

5 (5) Information about participating in the legislative youth  
6 advisory council, including the application process and timeline,  
7 shall be distributed by the Washington state school directors'  
8 association.

9 (6) Subject to the supervision of the office of the lieutenant  
10 governor, the council shall have the following duties:

11 (a) Advising the legislature on proposed and pending legislation,  
12 including state budget expenditures and policy matters relating to  
13 youth;

14 (b) Advising the standing committees of the legislature and study  
15 commissions, committees, and task forces regarding issues relating to  
16 youth;

17 (c) Conducting periodic seminars for its members regarding  
18 leadership, government, and the legislature;

19 (d) Accepting and soliciting for grants and donations from public  
20 and private sources to support the activities of the council; ((and))

21 (e) In coordination with the student representative network,  
22 organizing an in-person annual day of youth civic education in  
23 Olympia;

24 (f) In collaboration with the youth civic engagement caucus,  
25 organizing a virtual town hall meeting within the three-month period  
26 preceding the commencement of the legislative session; and

27 (g) Reporting annually by December 1st to the legislature on its  
28 activities, including proposed legislation that implements  
29 recommendations of the council.

30 ((+6)) (7) In carrying out its duties under this section, the  
31 council must meet at least three times per year. The council is  
32 encouraged to use technology, such as remote videoconferencing  
33 technology, to facilitate members' participation in meetings. The  
34 council is encouraged to invite local state legislators to  
35 participate in the meetings. The council is encouraged to poll other  
36 students in order to get a broad perspective on various policy  
37 issues. The council is encouraged to use technology to conduct  
38 polling.

39 ((+7)) (8) Members may be reimbursed as provided in RCW  
40 43.03.050 and 43.03.060.



1        ~~((8))~~ (9) The office of the lieutenant governor shall provide  
2 administration, supervision, and facilitation support to the council.  
3 In facilitating the program, the office of the lieutenant governor  
4 may collaborate with the Washington state leadership board  
5 established in RCW 43.388.010. The senate and house of  
6 representatives may provide policy and fiscal briefings and  
7 assistance with drafting proposed legislation. The senate and the  
8 house of representatives shall each develop internal policies  
9 relating to staff assistance provided to the council. Such policies  
10 may include applicable internal personnel and practices guidelines,  
11 resource use and expense reimbursement guidelines, and applicable  
12 ethics mandates. Provision of funds, resources, and staff, as well as  
13 the assignment and direction of staff, remains at all times within  
14 the sole discretion of the chamber making the provision.

15        ~~((9))~~ (10) The office of the lieutenant governor, the  
16 legislature, any agency of the legislature, and any official or  
17 employee of such office or agency ~~((are))~~ is immune from liability  
18 for any injury that is incurred by or caused by a member of the  
19 legislative youth advisory council and that occurs while the member  
20 of the council is performing duties of the council or is otherwise  
21 engaged in activities or receiving services for which reimbursement  
22 is allowed under subsection ~~((7))~~ (8) of this section. The immunity  
23 provided by this subsection does not apply to an injury intentionally  
24 caused by the act or omission of an employee or official of the  
25 office of the lieutenant governor, the legislature, or any agency of  
26 the legislature.

27        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 6.**    (1) A youth civic engagement caucus is  
28 established to examine issues of importance to youth, including but  
29 not limited to education, employment, strategies to increase youth  
30 participation in state and municipal government, safe environments  
31 for youth, substance abuse, emotional and physical health, foster  
32 care, poverty, homelessness, and youth access to services on a  
33 statewide and municipal basis.

34        (2) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall  
35 select a statewide organization that provides leadership  
36 opportunities to students to create model processes and procedures  
37 that may be used to establish and maintain the youth civic engagement  
38 caucus. The model processes and procedures must be completed by  
39 September 1, 2025.

1 (3) Membership terms are as follows:

2 (a) The caucus consists of up to 49 members, with one member from  
3 each legislative district, who are sixth, seventh, or eighth grade  
4 students who attend a qualifying school, as defined in section 2 of  
5 this act, in the legislative district.

6 (b) The initial members on the caucus shall be equally balanced  
7 between sixth and seventh grade students to the greatest extent  
8 feasible. Sixth graders initially selected to the caucus shall serve  
9 three-year terms. Seventh graders initially selected to the caucus  
10 shall serve two-year terms, commencing October 1, 2025. All students  
11 subsequently selected to the caucus shall serve two-year terms,  
12 commencing each June 1st every two years thereafter.

13 (4) Members of the caucus shall serve as the vice chair for the  
14 legislative district student council of the member's respective  
15 legislative district.

16 (5) The caucus shall advise the legislature on proposed and  
17 pending legislation, including policy matters relating to youth.

18 (6) In carrying out its duties under this section, the caucus  
19 must meet at least four times per year, including:

20 (a) Collaborating with the legislative youth advisory council to  
21 play an active role in organizing action day, the annual day of civic  
22 youth education in Olympia under RCW 43.15.095(6)(e); and

23 (b) Collaborating with the legislative youth advisory council to  
24 organize a virtual town hall meeting within the three-month period  
25 preceding the commencement of the legislative session.

26 (7) The caucus is encouraged to use technology, such as remote  
27 videoconferencing technology, to facilitate members' participation in  
28 meetings. The caucus is encouraged to invite local state legislators  
29 to participate in the meetings. The caucus is encouraged to poll  
30 other students in order to get a broad perspective on various policy  
31 issues. The caucus is encouraged to use technology to conduct  
32 polling.

33 (8) When engaging in outreach and recruiting efforts to educate  
34 students and schools about opportunities to participate in the youth  
35 civic engagement caucus, the lieutenant governor and the organization  
36 selected in subsection (2) of this section, as applicable, shall  
37 comply with the principles of the state pro-equity antiracism plan  
38 and playbook developed by the office of equity to bridge opportunity  
39 gaps, reduce disparities, and increase diversity of student  
40 membership.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 7.**    Sections 2 and 6 of this act constitute a  
2 new chapter in Title 44 RCW.

3        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 8.**    A new section is added to chapter 28A.300  
4 RCW to read as follows:

5        (1) The Washington state green schools advisory program is  
6 established in the office of the superintendent of public instruction  
7 to support legislative district student councils in creating and  
8 expanding resource conservation practices in public schools,  
9 including: Waste reduction, energy reduction, water conservation,  
10 urban forestry education, and environmental preservation; and  
11 education and leadership opportunities for students seeking to  
12 promote conservation practices in their schools. The program is  
13 voluntary and is intended to report to the legislative district  
14 student councils regarding opportunities to:

15        (a) Complement resource conservation programs for school  
16 districts and public schools that are established by counties or  
17 other entities by, in part, providing increased opportunities for  
18 student education and leadership in resource conservation practices;

19        (b) For school districts and public schools that cannot access or  
20 are not participating in resource conservation programs, establish  
21 and promote resource conservation programs that include student  
22 education and leadership opportunities;

23        (c) Support instruction in climate curriculum aligned with the  
24 state science and integrated environmental and sustainability  
25 learning standards; and

26        (d) For school districts and public schools, collaborate with the  
27 department of natural resources for the purposes of schoolyard  
28 greening projects, schoolyard forests, and career-connected learning  
29 related to natural resource job opportunities within the national  
30 forest school forest system network and other urban forestry  
31 projects.

32        (2) The green schools advisory program shall solicit feedback  
33 from the legislative district student councils regarding state  
34 policies that would further the goals of student leadership in  
35 resource conservation practices.

36        (3) For the purposes of this section, "public school" has the  
37 same meaning as in RCW 28A.150.010.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 9.**    A new section is added to chapter 28A.300  
2    RCW to read as follows:

3        (1) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this  
4    specific purpose, the office of the superintendent of public  
5    instruction shall establish and administer a grant program to provide  
6    assistance to school districts for the purpose of creating or  
7    expanding resource conservation practices in accordance with section  
8    8 of this act.

9        (2) School districts that participate in the Washington state  
10   green schools advisory program established in section 8 of this act  
11   may, on forms developed by the office of the superintendent of public  
12   instruction, apply for:

13        (a) Annual project grants of up to \$15,000 per school, per year,  
14   in furtherance of the Washington state green schools advisory  
15   program. Applications for grants awarded in accordance with this  
16   subsection (2)(a) must demonstrate student involvement through the  
17   legislative district student council and a student-based team, group,  
18   or club in the selection and support of projects proposed for  
19   funding; and

20        (b) Grants for stipend funds for school-based advisors that  
21   assist students in learning about, promoting, and implementing  
22   resource conservation practices in school facilities. Stipend funds  
23   provided in accordance with this section may not exceed \$600 per  
24   school, per year, but nothing in this section prevents school  
25   districts from providing additional funding for school-based  
26   advisors.

27        (3) For the purposes of this section, "school districts" include  
28   school districts, charter schools established under chapter 28A.710  
29   RCW, and state-tribal education compact schools subject to chapter  
30   28A.715 RCW."

**E2SHB 1692** - S COMM AMD

By Committee on State Government & Elections

31        On page 1, line 3 of the title, after "youth;" strike the  
32   remainder of the title and insert "amending RCW 43.15.095; adding a  
33   new section to chapter 28A.345 RCW; adding new sections to chapter

1 28A.300 RCW; adding a new chapter to Title 44 RCW; creating new  
2 sections; and providing an expiration date."

EFFECT: Specifies that the statewide organization selected by OSPI have more than 20 years' experience. Establishes the Washington state green schools advisory program to support legislative district student councils in creating and expanding resource conservation practices in public schools. Directs OSPI to establish and administer a grant program to provide assistance to school districts for the purpose of creating or expanding resource conservation practices in accordance with the green schools advisory program.

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