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## Education Committee

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### HB 1662

**Brief Description:** Removing the requirement for certain education agencies to reside in the office of the superintendent of public instruction for administrative purposes and by making other necessary changes to support independent administration of each agency.

**Sponsors:** Representative Santos.

#### Brief Summary of Bill

- Requires the State Board of Education, the Washington Professional Educator Standards Board, the Financial Education Public-Private Partnership, and the Washington State Charter School Commission to make independent provision for their administrative services, effective July 1, 2026.
- Requires the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction to continue providing administrative services to the specified entities at a level commensurate with their needs through the 2025-2026 fiscal year, and to perform other related duties.

**Hearing Date:** 2/11/25

**Staff:** Ethan Moreno (786-7386).

#### Background:

Although governed by independent statutes, the State Board of Education (SBE), the Washington Professional Educator Standards Board (PESB), the Financial Education Public-Private Partnership (FEPPP), and the Washington State Charter School Commission (Charter School Commission) are directed by law to wholly or partially reside within the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) for administrative purposes.

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

Entity	Must Reside within OSPI for Administrative Purposes
State Board of Education	Executive Director and Administrative Assistant
Professional Educator Standards Board	Executive Director and Administrative Assistant
Financial-Education Public Private Partnership	Staff
Charter School Commission	Charter School Commission

The administrative supports that the OSPI provides to the SBE, the PESB, the FEPPP, and the Charter School Commission vary depending upon entity needs and authority, but categories of common supports include:

- human resources;
- payroll;
- technology, including hardware, IT support, and email;
- facilities;
- purchasing; and
- budget.

**Summary of Bill:**

Independent Provision of Administrative Services.

Effective July 1, 2026, the State Board of Education (SBE), the Washington Professional Educator Standards Board (PESB), the Financial Education Public-Private Partnership (FEPPP), and the Washington State Charter School Commission (Charter School Commission) are directed to make independent provision for their administrative services. Each of these entities may contract for all or any portion of their administrative services.

Provisions requiring the SBE, the PESB, the FEPPP, and the Charter School Commission to wholly or partially reside within the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) for administrative purposes are removed.

In preparation for the independent provision of administrative services, the Office of Financial Management must coordinate with the OSPI, the SBE, the PESB, the FEPPP, the Charter School Commission, and other affected agencies to support the transition to independent administrative services. Additionally, the SBE, the PESB, the FEPPP, and the Charter School Commission must each establish policies, procedures, and controls necessary to move to independent administration of each entity's business services.

The OSPI must continue to provide administrative services at a level commensurate with the business needs for the affected entities through the fiscal close of the 2025-2026 fiscal year. The OSPI also must provide the agencies with necessary information and documentation in a

reasonable amount of time to meet their planning needs and ensure an effective and efficient transfer of administrative services.

Transfers of Assets, Appropriations, Employees, and Contracts.

Effective July 1, 2026:

- reports, documents, files, funds, credits, and appropriations in the possession of the OSPI that are held on behalf of the SBE, the PESB, the FEPPP, and the Charter School Commission must be transferred to the applicable entity;
- any employees of the OSPI that are employed on behalf of SBE, the PESB, the FEPPP, and the Charter School Commission must be transferred to the applicable entity, subject to review by the entity's executive director; and
- all existing contracts and obligations executed by the OSPI on behalf of the SBE, the PESB, the FEPPP, and the Charter School Commission remain in full force and must be performed by the applicable entity.

Other Administrative Changes.

Effective July 1, 2026:

- provisions authorizing the Superintendent of Public Instruction to appoint and employ personnel to carry out the duties of the SBE are removed;
- the PESB is authorized to delegate to its executive director duties as deemed necessary to efficiently carry on the business of the PESB, including the authority to employ an administrative assistant and other necessary personnel, and to enter into, amend, and terminate contracts; and
- the FEPP is authorized to hire an executive director (instead of a staff person) and to delegate to its executive director duties deemed necessary to efficiently carry on the business of the FEPPP including, the authority to employ necessary personnel and to enter into, amend, and terminate contracts.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Requested on February 5, 2025.

**Effective Date:** The bill takes effect on July 1, 2026, except for sections 1 and 2, which relate to legislative intent and administrative service requirements for the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, which take effect 90 days after the adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.