HOUSE BILL 1943

State of Washington 69th Legislature 2025 Regular Session

By Representatives Obras, Santos, Thai, Reed, Ramel, Parshley, Pollet, Nance, Macri, Doglio, and Timmons

Read first time 02/11/25. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to public school instruction in awareness of 2 blood donation; amending RCW 28A.210.430; and creating a new section.

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

<u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 1. The legislature recognizes that increasing awareness of blood donation is crucial to addressing the growing need for a reliable and diverse blood supply. Just as bone marrow donation awareness has been shown to save lives, education about blood donation can empower students to become future donors, ensuring a safe and sustainable blood supply for patients in need.

10 integrating blood donation By awareness into existing 11 instruction, students will gain knowledge about the life-saving impact of blood donation, eligibility requirements, and opportunities 12 13 to participate in donation programs. The legislature intends for this 14 instruction to complement existing health education requirements and 15 increase opportunities for students to engage in civic and community 16 health initiatives.

17 Sec. 2. RCW 28A.210.430 and 2023 c 219 s 2 are each amended to 18 read as follows:

19 (1) Each school district, charter school, and state-tribal20 education compact school that serves students in any of grades nine

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1 through 12 is encouraged to offer instruction in awareness of bone 2 marrow <u>and blood</u> donation to students as provided in this section. 3 Beginning with the ((2023-24)) <u>2025-26</u> school year, instruction in 4 awareness of bone marrow <u>and blood</u> donation may be included in at 5 least one health class necessary for graduation.

6 (2)(a) Instruction in awareness of bone marrow <u>and blood</u> donation 7 under this section must be an instructional program provided by the 8 national marrow donor program, the <u>American red cross</u>, <u>America's</u> 9 <u>blood centers</u>, <u>Bloodworks Northwest</u>, or other relevant nationally 10 recognized ((organization)) <u>organizations focused on either bone</u> 11 <u>marrow or blood donation</u>, or both.

12 (b) The office of the superintendent of public instruction must 13 post on its website a link to the instructional program<u>s</u> described in 14 this subsection (2).

15 (3) Each school district, charter school, and state-tribal 16 education compact school that serves students in any of grades 17 kindergarten through eight may offer instruction in awareness of bone 18 marrow <u>and blood</u> donation to students. The instruction described in 19 subsection (2) of this section may be adapted to be age appropriate.

(4) School districts, charter schools, and state-tribal education compact schools may offer the instruction in awareness of bone marrow <u>and blood</u> donation directly or arrange for the instruction to be provided by available community-based providers. The instruction does not have to be provided by certificated instructional staff.

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