

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

HOUSE BILL 1796

69th Legislature
2026 Regular Session

Passed by the House March 11, 2026
Yeas 95 Nays 2

**Speaker of the House of
Representatives**

Passed by the Senate March 5, 2026
Yeas 30 Nays 18

President of the Senate

Approved

Governor of the State of Washington

CERTIFICATE

I, Bernard Dean, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **HOUSE BILL 1796** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

Chief Clerk

FILED

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

HOUSE BILL 1796

AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

Passed Legislature - 2026 Regular Session

State of Washington **69th Legislature** **2025 Regular Session**

By Representatives Callan, Berg, Santos, Parshley, Ramel, Wylie, Reed, Ormsby, and Hill

Read first time 02/03/25. Referred to Committee on Capital Budget.

1 AN ACT Relating to school districts' authority to contract
2 indebtedness for school construction; and amending RCW 28A.530.080.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.530.080 and 2010 c 241 s 1 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) (a) In addition to the authority granted under RCW
7 28A.530.010, a school district may contract indebtedness for any
8 purpose specified in RCW 28A.530.010 (2) (~~(, (4), and)~~) through (5) or
9 for the purpose of purchasing any real or personal property, or
10 property rights, in connection with the exercise of any powers or
11 duties which it is now or hereafter authorized to exercise, and issue
12 bonds, notes, or other evidences of indebtedness therefor without a
13 vote of the qualified electors of the district, subject to the
14 limitations on indebtedness set forth in RCW 39.36.020(3) and this
15 subsection.

16 (b) To exercise the authority in (a) of this subsection for any
17 purpose specified in RCW 28A.530.010(3) a school district must:

18 (i) Have received approval from the qualified electors of the
19 district to collect a levy to support the construction,
20 modernization, or remodeling of school facilities as authorized under
21 RCW 84.52.053, which must be used to fully repay the indebtedness;

1 (ii) Not have been on binding conditions pursuant to RCW
2 28A.505.110 in the three years preceding the date of the contract;
3 and

4 (iii) Agree to delay for two years the receipt of state financial
5 assistance for the project that the school district is eligible for
6 under RCW 28A.525.162 through 28A.525.180.

7 (2) Before issuing nonvoted bonds in excess of (~~two hundred~~
8 ~~fifty thousand dollars~~) \$250,000, a school district shall publish
9 notice of intent to issue such bonds and shall hold a public hearing
10 on the proposal at any regular or special meeting of the school
11 board. The notice shall designate: The date, time, and place of the
12 hearing; the purpose and amount of the bonds; the type, terms, and
13 conditions of bonds; and the means identified for repayment. The
14 notice shall also state that any person may appear and be heard on
15 the issue of issuing such bonds. The notice shall be published at
16 least once each week for two consecutive weeks in a newspaper of
17 general circulation in the district, or if there is none, in a
18 newspaper of general circulation in the county or counties in which
19 such district is a part. The last notice shall be published no later
20 than seven days immediately before the hearing. At the conclusion of
21 public comment, the board of directors may proceed to determine, by
22 resolution, whether to issue such bonds.

23 (3) The public notice and hearing requirements in subsection (2)
24 of this section shall not apply to any refinancing or refunding of
25 outstanding nonvoted or voted bonds.

26 (4) Such bonds, notes, or other evidences of indebtedness shall
27 be issued and sold in accordance with chapter 39.46 RCW, and the
28 proceeds thereof shall be deposited in the capital projects fund, the
29 transportation vehicle fund, or the general fund, as applicable.

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