
SENATE BILL 5670

State of Washington

60th Legislature

2007 Regular Session

By Senators Holmquist, Rasmussen and Clements

Read first time 01/29/2007. Referred to Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to the basic education funding formula; amending
2 RCW 28A.150.260; and creating a new section.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that current funding
5 formulas used to determine the state allocation for public schools is
6 confusing and should be more clear. The legislature further finds that
7 the funding ratios currently aggregate different classifications of
8 staff so that it is unclear how many teachers the state allocation is
9 funding. The legislature further finds that the funding formulas
10 should be changed to separate the different classifications of staff,
11 including classroom teachers, and that the specific funding ratios
12 should be determined in the omnibus appropriations act.

13 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.150.260 and 2006 c 263 s 322 are each amended to
14 read as follows:

15 The basic education allocation for each annual average full-time
16 equivalent student shall be determined in accordance with the following
17 procedures:

1 (1) The governor shall and the superintendent of public instruction
2 may recommend to the legislature a formula based on a ratio of students
3 to staff for the distribution of a basic education allocation for each
4 annual average full-time equivalent student enrolled in a common
5 school. The distribution formula shall have the primary objective of
6 equalizing educational opportunities and shall provide appropriate
7 recognition of the following costs among the various districts within
8 the state:

9 (a) (~~Certificated instructional staff~~) Classroom teachers and
10 their related costs;

11 (b) Other certificated staff and their related costs;

12 (c) Certificated administrative staff and their related costs;

13 (~~(c)~~) (d) Classified staff and their related costs;

14 (~~(d)~~) (e) Nonsalary costs;

15 (~~(e)~~) (f) Extraordinary costs, including school facilities, of
16 remote and necessary schools as judged by the superintendent of public
17 instruction, with recommendations from the school facilities citizen
18 advisory panel under RCW 28A.525.025, and small high schools, including
19 costs of additional certificated and classified staff; and

20 (~~(f)~~) (g) The attendance of students pursuant to RCW 28A.335.160
21 and 28A.225.250 who do not reside within the servicing school district.

22 (2)(a) This formula for distribution of basic education funds shall
23 be reviewed biennially by the superintendent and governor. The
24 recommended formula shall be subject to approval, amendment or
25 rejection by the legislature. The formula shall be for allocation
26 purposes only. While the legislature intends that the allocations for
27 additional instructional staff be used to increase the ratio of such
28 staff to students, nothing in this section shall require districts to
29 reduce the number of administrative staff below existing levels.

30 (b) The formula adopted by the legislature shall be specified in
31 the omnibus appropriations act and shall reflect the (~~following~~)
32 ratios (~~(at a minimum)~~) for the following: (i) (~~Forty-nine~~)
33 Classroom teachers to students enrolled in grades kindergarten through
34 three; (ii) classroom teachers to students enrolled in grades four
35 through twelve; (iii) other certificated instructional staff to (~~one~~
36 ~~thousand annual average full-time equivalent~~) students enrolled in
37 grades kindergarten through three; (~~(ii) forty-six~~) (iv) other
38 certificated instructional staff to (~~one thousand annual average full~~

1 ~~time equivalent~~) students in grades four through twelve; (~~(iii)~~
2 ~~four~~) (v) certificated administrative staff to (~~one thousand annual~~
3 ~~average full time equivalent~~) students in grades kindergarten through
4 twelve; and (~~(iv) sixteen and sixty seven one hundredths~~) (vi)
5 classified personnel to (~~one thousand annual average full time~~
6 ~~equivalent~~) students enrolled in grades kindergarten through twelve.

7 (c) In the event the legislature rejects the distribution formula
8 recommended by the governor, without adopting a new distribution
9 formula, the distribution formula for the previous school year shall
10 remain in effect: PROVIDED, That the distribution formula developed
11 pursuant to this section shall be for state apportionment and
12 equalization purposes only and shall not be construed as mandating
13 specific operational functions of local school districts other than
14 those program requirements identified in RCW 28A.150.220 and
15 28A.150.100. The enrollment of any district shall be the annual
16 average number of full-time equivalent students and part-time students
17 as provided in RCW 28A.150.350, enrolled on the first school day of
18 each month and shall exclude full-time equivalent students with
19 disabilities recognized for the purposes of allocation of state funds
20 for programs under RCW 28A.155.010 through 28A.155.100. The definition
21 of full-time equivalent student shall be determined by rules of the
22 superintendent of public instruction: PROVIDED, That the definition
23 shall be included as part of the superintendent's biennial budget
24 request: PROVIDED, FURTHER, That any revision of the present
25 definition shall not take effect until approved by the house
26 appropriations committee and the senate ways and means committee:
27 PROVIDED, FURTHER, That the office of financial management shall make
28 a monthly review of the superintendent's reported full-time equivalent
29 students in the common schools in conjunction with RCW 43.62.050.

30 (3)(a) Certificated instructional staff shall include those persons
31 employed by a school district who are nonsupervisory employees within
32 the meaning of RCW 41.59.020(8): PROVIDED, That in exceptional cases,
33 people of unusual competence but without certification may teach
34 students so long as a certificated person exercises general
35 supervision: PROVIDED, FURTHER, That the hiring of such classified
36 people shall not occur during a labor dispute and such classified
37 people shall not be hired to replace certificated employees during a
38 labor dispute.

1 (b) If certificated administrative staff ((shall include)) includes
2 all those persons who are chief executive officers, chief
3 administrative officers, confidential employees, supervisors,
4 principals, or assistant principals within the meaning of RCW
5 41.59.020(4), then the different ratios for each of these personnel
6 classifications shall be specified in the omnibus appropriations act.

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