
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1618

State of Washington

61st Legislature

2009 Regular Session

By House Capital Budget (originally sponsored by Representatives White, Nelson, Hudgins, Kenney, Sullivan, Carlyle, Hasegawa, Santos, Green, Miloscia, Orwall, Pedersen, Cody, Dickerson, Lias, Kelley, Pettigrew, Goodman, Simpson, Morrell, and Ormsby)

READ FIRST TIME 02/13/09.

1 AN ACT Relating to community and surplus schools; amending RCW
2 43.63A.135, 28A.525.050, and 28A.335.130; adding new sections to
3 chapter 43.63A RCW; and creating new sections.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** This act shall be known as the community
6 schools act of 2009.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The legislature finds that young people need
8 a wide range of opportunities and a strong support system to succeed.
9 A quality academic program is necessary but is not sufficient, given
10 societal factors, family circumstances, poverty, and health problems.
11 All children, regardless of their economic, racial, or family
12 circumstances, deserve access to a full array of opportunities. The
13 legislature also finds that cooperative partnerships and joint use of
14 facilities between public schools, local governments, early learning
15 providers, health and social service providers, and postsecondary
16 institutions can result in the effective use of federal, state, local,
17 and community resources. Such partnerships build on community
18 strengths, foster family and community engagement, share accountability

1 for results, and set high expectations for all. The legislature
2 further finds that surplus schools are community assets that should be
3 reused for maximum public good to benefit communities.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 43.63A RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 (1) The community schools program is created in the department of
7 community, trade, and economic development to provide capital grant
8 funds for the development of community schools and to convert empty
9 school buildings into community facilities.

10 (2) The purposes of the program are: (a) Improving the
11 coordination, availability, and effectiveness of services for children
12 and families; (b) helping children to come to school ready to learn
13 every day; (c) enabling families to participate in the education of
14 their children; and (d) enabling more efficient use of federal, state,
15 local, and private sector resources that serve children and families.

16 (3) Grants provided through the program may be used for the
17 acquisition, construction, rehabilitation, and improvement of
18 facilities to assist with the implementation of this act.

19 (4) The department of community, trade, and economic development
20 shall:

21 (a) Establish a competitive process to solicit project proposals
22 that assist eligible entities in acquiring, constructing,
23 rehabilitating, or improving facilities, including surplus schools, to
24 be used for the delivery of nonresidential qualified services in
25 surplus school buildings, on school grounds, or within a reasonable
26 safe walking distance from the school given the age of the students;

27 (b) Evaluate and rank applications in consultation with an
28 independent advisory board using objective criteria;

29 (c) Establish a tiered system to determine the amount of matching
30 funds required from a grantee based on financial need, taking into
31 consideration:

32 (i) Community purpose; and

33 (ii) The ability of the applicant to obtain matching funds; and

34 (d) Establish a prioritized list of capital projects in
35 consultation with the advisory board and submit the list annually to
36 the governor and the legislature in the department's capital budget

1 request beginning with the 2011-2013 biennium. The list must include
2 a description of each project, the amount of recommended state funding,
3 and documentation of nonstate funds to be used for the project.

4 (5) In evaluating and ranking applications in consultation with an
5 independent advisory board, the department of community, trade, and
6 economic development shall give priority consideration to projects that
7 provide multiple qualified services and that demonstrate usage beyond
8 the traditional school day to include usage before and after school, on
9 weekends, and all year use.

10 (6) Nonstate matching funds may include cash, the value of real
11 property when acquired solely for the purpose of the project, and in-
12 kind contributions.

13 (7) The department of community, trade, and economic development
14 may not: (a) Require that state funds be the last to be spent on a
15 project; or (b) set a monetary limit to funding requests.

16 (8) The department of community, trade, and economic development
17 shall not sign contracts or otherwise financially obligate funds under
18 this section until the legislature has approved a specific list of
19 projects.

20 (9) In contracts for grants authorized under this act, the
21 department of community, trade, and economic development shall include
22 provisions that require that capital improvements must be held by the
23 grantee for a specified period of time appropriate to the amount of the
24 grant and that facilities must be used for the express purpose of the
25 grant. If the grantee is found to be out of compliance with provisions
26 of the contract, the grantee shall repay to the state general fund the
27 principal amount of the grant plus interest calculated at the rate of
28 interest on state of Washington general obligation bonds issued most
29 closely to the date of authorization of the grant.

30 (10) As part of the application process, applicants must submit a
31 comprehensive plan that includes information on the following:

32 (a) A list of partner entities that will assist the lead eligible
33 entity to provide or coordinate qualified services;

34 (b) A memorandum of understanding between the lead eligible entity
35 and each partner entity describing the role each entity will assume;

36 (c) Plans for joint utilization and maintenance of school and
37 community facilities by the lead eligible entity and its partner
38 entities, as well as liability considerations;

1 (d) The student, family, and school community to be served,
2 including information about the number of students, families, and
3 community residents to be served, frequency of services, and
4 information related to the percent of local elementary students that
5 receive free and reduced-price meals in the target area;

6 (e) Existing qualified services available at each school to be
7 served and in the community involved;

8 (f) The location of the proposed project, including that if the
9 project is not on school grounds, or is not a surplus school, then
10 documentation is required that the proposed project is within a
11 reasonable safe walking distance for the age of the students;

12 (g) Qualified services to be provided or coordinated by the lead
13 eligible entity and its partner entities; and

14 (h) An examination of capital and operating funding sources that
15 applicants intend to apply to the project and qualified services at
16 each school to be served, whether such funding is derived from grants
17 under this act or from other federal, state, local, or private sources.

18 (11) Project applicants must also demonstrate that the proposed
19 project is ready to proceed, will make timely use of the funds, and
20 requires state funding to accomplish a discrete, usable phase of the
21 project.

22 (12) If state grant funds under this act are used for the
23 acquisition of surplus school facilities, sale proceeds must be used by
24 the local school board disposing of such property for renovation,
25 replacement, or new construction of school facilities in the district.

26 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 43.63A RCW
27 to read as follows:

28 The definitions in this section apply throughout section 3 of this
29 act unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

30 (1) "Advisory board" means an independent advisory board including,
31 but not limited to, a representative from the office of the
32 superintendent of public instruction, an early learning expert, a youth
33 recreational facility expert, a social service facility expert, a local
34 school district representative, and a public higher education
35 representative.

36 (2) "Community school" means both a place and a set of partnerships
37 between entities including, but not limited to, public schools,

1 postsecondary institutions, local governments, nonprofit early learning
2 providers, and other nonprofit community resources with an integrated
3 focus on academics, health and social services, youth and community
4 development, and community engagement.

5 (3) "Eligible entity" means a public school district, local
6 government, nonprofit organization, nonprofit early learning provider,
7 or tribal government.

8 (4) "Qualified services" means the following:

- 9 (a) Early childhood education;
- 10 (b) Remedial education activities and academic enrichment
11 activities;
- 12 (c) Programs that promote parental involvement and family literacy;
- 13 (d) Youth development programs;
- 14 (e) Parent leadership development activities;
- 15 (f) Parenting education activities;
- 16 (g) Child care services;
- 17 (h) Community service opportunities;
- 18 (i) Programs that provide assistance to students who have been
19 truant, suspended, or expelled;
- 20 (j) Job training and career counseling services;
- 21 (k) Nutrition services;
- 22 (l) Primary health and dental care;
- 23 (m) Mental health prevention and treatment services;
- 24 (n) Adult education, including instruction in English as a second
25 language; and
- 26 (o) Other services as determined by the advisory board.

27 (5) "Surplus school" means a facility that is determined to be
28 surplus to the needs of a district by the local school board.

29 **Sec. 5.** RCW 43.63A.135 and 2006 c 371 s 234 are each amended to
30 read as follows:

31 (1) The department of community, trade, and economic development
32 must establish a competitive process to solicit proposals for and
33 prioritize projects whose primary objective is to assist nonprofit
34 youth organizations in acquiring, constructing, or rehabilitating
35 facilities used for the delivery of nonresidential services, excluding
36 outdoor athletic fields.

1 (2) The department of community, trade, and economic development
2 must establish a competitive process to prioritize applications for the
3 assistance as follows:

4 (a) The department of community, trade, and economic development
5 must conduct a statewide solicitation of project applications from
6 local governments, nonprofit organizations, and other entities, as
7 determined by the department of community, trade, and economic
8 development. The department of community, trade, and economic
9 development must evaluate and rank applications in consultation with a
10 citizen advisory committee using objective criteria. Projects must
11 have a major recreational component, and must have either an
12 educational or social service component. At a minimum, applicants must
13 demonstrate that the requested assistance will increase the efficiency
14 or quality of the services it provides to youth. The evaluation and
15 ranking process must also include an examination of existing assets
16 that applicants may apply to projects. Priority consideration must be
17 given to projects that include cooperative partnerships or joint use
18 agreements for facilities shared with public school districts,
19 nonprofit early learning providers, local governments, postsecondary
20 institutions, tribal governments, or other entities as determined by
21 the department of community, trade, and economic development. Grant
22 assistance under this section may not exceed twenty-five percent of the
23 total cost of the project. The nonstate portion of the total project
24 cost may include cash, the value of real property when acquired solely
25 for the purpose of the project, and in-kind contributions.

26 (b) The department of community, trade, and economic development
27 must submit a prioritized list of recommended projects to the governor
28 and the legislature in the department of community, trade, and economic
29 development's biennial capital budget request beginning with the
30 ((2005-2007)) 2011-2013 biennium and thereafter. The list must include
31 a description of each project, the amount of recommended state funding,
32 and documentation of nonstate funds to be used for the project. The
33 total amount of recommended state funding for projects on a biennial
34 project list must not exceed eight million dollars. The department of
35 community, trade, and economic development may not sign contracts or
36 otherwise financially obligate funds under this section until the
37 legislature has approved a specific list of projects.

1 (c) In contracts for grants authorized under this section the
2 department of community, trade, and economic development must include
3 provisions that require that capital improvements be held by the
4 grantee for a specified period of time appropriate to the amount of the
5 grant and that facilities be used for the express purpose of the grant.
6 If the grantee is found to be out of compliance with provisions of the
7 contract, the grantee must repay to the state general fund the
8 principal amount of the grant plus interest calculated at the rate of
9 interest on state of Washington general obligation bonds issued most
10 closely to the date of authorization of the grant.

11 **Sec. 6.** RCW 28A.525.050 and 2006 c 263 s 303 are each amended to
12 read as follows:

13 All applications by school districts for state assistance in
14 providing school plant facilities shall be made to the superintendent
15 of public instruction. Studies and surveys shall be conducted by the
16 superintendent for the purpose of securing information relating to (1)
17 the kind and extent of the school plant facilities required and the
18 urgency of need for such facilities in districts that seek state
19 assistance, (2) the ability of such districts to provide capital outlay
20 funds by local effort, (3) the need for improvement of school
21 administrative units and school attendance areas among or within such
22 districts, and (4) any other pertinent matters. Studies and surveys
23 must also include an inventory of school district facilities jointly
24 used, or that could potentially be used for other community purposes,
25 including detail on cooperative partnerships. Recommendations
26 respecting action on the applications shall be submitted to the
27 superintendent of public instruction.

28 **Sec. 7.** RCW 28A.335.130 and 2004 c 6 s 2 are each amended to read
29 as follows:

30 Except as provided in RCW 28A.335.240(1) and section 3 of this act,
31 the proceeds from any sale of school district real property by a board
32 of directors shall be deposited to the debt service fund and/or the
33 capital projects fund, except for amounts required to be expended for
34 the costs associated with the sale of such property, which moneys may

1 be deposited into the fund from which the expenditure was incurred.

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