

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

HOUSE BILL 2621

61st Legislature
2010 Regular Session

Passed by the House March 6, 2010
Yeas 95 Nays 0

Speaker of the House of Representatives

Passed by the Senate March 4, 2010
Yeas 47 Nays 0

President of the Senate

Approved

Governor of the State of Washington

CERTIFICATE

I, Barbara Baker, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **HOUSE BILL 2621** 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 2621

AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

Passed Legislature - 2010 Regular Session

State of Washington 61st Legislature 2010 Regular Session

By Representatives Orwall, Maxwell, Darneille, Morrell, and Haigh

Prefiled 01/08/10. Read first time 01/11/10. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to designating resource programs for science,
2 technology, engineering, and mathematics instruction in K-12 schools;
3 adding a new section to chapter 28A.630 RCW; and creating a new
4 section.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature has made a commitment to
7 support multiple strategies to improve teaching and learning of
8 science, technology, engineering, and mathematics in Washington's
9 public schools. In recent years, Washington has adopted new
10 technology, mathematics, and science learning standards; initiated
11 funding for middle schools to provide a career and technical program in
12 science, technology, engineering, and mathematics at the same rate as
13 a high school operating a similar program; provided professional
14 development for mathematics and science teachers; created a scholarship
15 program to encourage students to enter mathematics and science degree
16 programs; supported career and technical education in high-demand
17 fields; and authorized alternative ways for teachers to earn
18 certification in the mathematics and science fields.

1 (2) At the local level, school districts and their communities are
2 also finding new ways to improve teaching and learning of science,
3 technology, engineering, and mathematics. Some districts have combined
4 several best practices into promising learning models for students.
5 For example, Aviation high school in the Highline school district
6 offers a small, highly personalized learning community that is focused
7 on interdisciplinary immersion in science, technology, engineering, and
8 mathematics using a hands-on, project-based curriculum. Delta high
9 school in the Tri-Cities is a collaboration among three school
10 districts, a skill center, two institutions of higher education, a
11 community foundation, and local business leaders. The science and math
12 institute at Point Defiance in Tacoma offers students field-based
13 applied learning using the natural, historical, and community resources
14 of a large metropolitan park. These schools draw students from across
15 regions who are seeking an exciting, rigorous, and nontraditional
16 learning experience. Other schools and communities across the state
17 are seeking to replicate these innovative learning models.

18 (3) The legislature intends to support continued expansion of the
19 type of innovation and creativity displayed by Aviation, Delta, and the
20 science and math institute by designating so-called "lighthouse" high
21 schools to serve as resources and examples of best practices in
22 science, technology, engineering, and mathematics instruction.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.630
24 RCW to read as follows:

25 (1) Subject to funds appropriated for this purpose, the
26 superintendent of public instruction shall designate up to three middle
27 schools and up to three high schools to serve as resources and examples
28 of how to combine the following best practices:

- 29 (a) A small, highly personalized learning community;
- 30 (b) An interdisciplinary curriculum with a strong focus on science,
31 technology, engineering, and mathematics delivered through a project-
32 based instructional approach; and
- 33 (c) Active partnerships with businesses and the local community to
34 connect learning beyond the classroom.

35 (2) The designated middle and high schools shall serve as
36 lighthouse programs and provide technical assistance and advice to
37 other middle and high schools and communities in the initial stages of

1 creating an alternative learning environment focused on science,
2 technology, engineering, and mathematics. The designated middle and
3 high schools must have proven experience and be recognized as model
4 programs.

5 (3) In addition, the office of the superintendent of public
6 instruction shall work with the designated middle and high schools to
7 publicize the models of best practices in science, technology,
8 engineering, and mathematics instruction used by the designated middle
9 and high schools and shall encourage other middle and high schools and
10 communities to work with the designated middle and high schools to
11 replicate similar models.

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