
HOUSE BILL 2492

State of Washington

62nd Legislature

2012 Regular Session

By Representatives Haigh, Dammeier, Maxwell, Dahlquist, Lias, Finn, and Santos

Read first time 01/16/12. Referred to Committee on Education Appropriations & Oversight.

1 AN ACT Relating to requiring the state board of education to
2 provide fiscal impact statements before making rule changes; and
3 amending RCW 28A.305.130.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.305.130 and 2011 1st sp.s. c 6 s 1 are each
6 amended to read as follows:

7 The purpose of the state board of education is to provide advocacy
8 and strategic oversight of public education; implement a standards-
9 based accountability framework that creates a unified system of
10 increasing levels of support for schools in order to improve student
11 academic achievement; provide leadership in the creation of a system
12 that personalizes education for each student and respects diverse
13 cultures, abilities, and learning styles; and promote achievement of
14 the goals of RCW 28A.150.210. In addition to any other powers and
15 duties as provided by law, the state board of education shall:

16 (1) Hold regularly scheduled meetings at such time and place within
17 the state as the board shall determine and may hold such special
18 meetings as may be deemed necessary for the transaction of public
19 business;

1 (2) Form committees as necessary to effectively and efficiently
2 conduct the work of the board;

3 (3) Seek advice from the public and interested parties regarding
4 the work of the board;

5 (4) For purposes of statewide accountability:

6 (a) Adopt and revise performance improvement goals in reading,
7 writing, science, and mathematics, by subject and grade level, once
8 assessments in these subjects are required statewide; academic and
9 technical skills, as appropriate, in secondary career and technical
10 education programs; and student attendance, as the board deems
11 appropriate to improve student learning. The goals shall be consistent
12 with student privacy protection provisions of RCW 28A.655.090(7) and
13 shall not conflict with requirements contained in Title I of the
14 federal elementary and secondary education act of 1965, or the
15 requirements of the Carl D. Perkins vocational education act of 1998,
16 each as amended. The goals may be established for all students,
17 economically disadvantaged students, limited English proficient
18 students, students with disabilities, and students from
19 disproportionately academically underachieving racial and ethnic
20 backgrounds. The board may establish school and school district goals
21 addressing high school graduation rates and dropout reduction goals for
22 students in grades seven through twelve. The board shall adopt the
23 goals by rule. However, before each goal or policy change is
24 implemented, the board shall:

25 (i) Complete a fiscal analysis on the impact of the rule or policy
26 change on the state and school district, including soliciting fiscal
27 impact data from a representative sample of school districts from
28 across the state, and share this information with the education
29 committees of the house of representatives and the senate at the time
30 the goal or policy change is presented; and

31 (ii) Present the goal or policy change to the education committees
32 of the house of representatives and the senate for the committees'
33 review and comment, including a public hearing, in a time frame that
34 will permit the legislature to take statutory action on the goal or
35 policy change if such action is deemed warranted by the legislature;

36 (b) Identify the scores students must achieve in order to meet the
37 standard on the statewide student assessment and, for high school
38 students, to obtain a certificate of academic achievement. The board

1 shall also determine student scores that identify levels of student
2 performance below and beyond the standard. The board shall consider
3 the incorporation of the standard error of measurement into the
4 decision regarding the award of the certificates. The board shall set
5 such performance standards and levels in consultation with the
6 superintendent of public instruction and after consideration of any
7 recommendations that may be developed by any advisory committees that
8 may be established for this purpose. The legislature shall be advised
9 of the initial performance standards for the high school statewide
10 student assessment. Any changes recommended by the board in the
11 performance standards for the high school assessment shall be presented
12 to the education committees of the house of representatives and the
13 senate by November 30th of the school year in which the changes will
14 take place to permit the legislature to take statutory action before
15 the changes are implemented if such action is deemed warranted by the
16 legislature. The legislature shall be advised of the initial
17 performance standards and any changes made to the elementary level
18 performance standards and the middle school level performance
19 standards. The board must provide an explanation of and rationale for
20 all initial performance standards and any changes, for all grade levels
21 of the statewide student assessment. If the board changes the
22 performance standards for any grade level or subject, the
23 superintendent of public instruction must recalculate the results from
24 the previous ten years of administering that assessment regarding
25 students below, meeting, and beyond the state standard, to the extent
26 that this data is available, and post a comparison of the original and
27 recalculated results on the superintendent's web site;

28 (c) Annually review the assessment reporting system to ensure
29 fairness, accuracy, timeliness, and equity of opportunity, especially
30 with regard to schools with special circumstances and unique
31 populations of students, and a recommendation to the superintendent of
32 public instruction of any improvements needed to the system; and

33 (d) Include in the biennial report required under RCW 28A.305.035,
34 information on the progress that has been made in achieving goals
35 adopted by the board;

36 (5) Accredite, subject to such accreditation standards and
37 procedures as may be established by the state board of education, all
38 private schools that apply for accreditation, and approve, subject to

1 the provisions of RCW 28A.195.010, private schools carrying out a
2 program for any or all of the grades kindergarten through twelve.
3 However, no private school may be approved that operates a kindergarten
4 program only and no private school shall be placed upon the list of
5 accredited schools so long as secret societies are knowingly allowed to
6 exist among its students by school officials;

7 (6) Articulate with the institutions of higher education, workforce
8 representatives, and early learning policymakers and providers to
9 coordinate and unify the work of the public school system;

10 (7) Hire an executive director and an administrative assistant to
11 reside in the office of the superintendent of public instruction for
12 administrative purposes. Any other personnel of the board shall be
13 appointed as provided by RCW 28A.300.020. The board may delegate to
14 the executive director by resolution such duties as deemed necessary to
15 efficiently carry on the business of the board including, but not
16 limited to, the authority to employ necessary personnel and the
17 authority to enter into, amend, and terminate contracts on behalf of
18 the board. The executive director, administrative assistant, and all
19 but one of the other personnel of the board are exempt from civil
20 service, together with other staff as now or hereafter designated as
21 exempt in accordance with chapter 41.06 RCW; and

22 (8) Adopt a seal that shall be kept in the office of the
23 superintendent of public instruction.

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