
HOUSE BILL 2317

State of Washington

63rd Legislature

2014 Regular Session

By Representatives Haigh, Hunt, Magendanz, Orwall, Fagan, Ormsby, Kagi, Morrell, Seaquist, and Pollet

Read first time 01/15/14. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to promoting expanded learning opportunities as a
2 strategy to close the educational opportunity gap and prevent summer
3 learning loss; adding new sections to chapter 28A.300 RCW; and creating
4 a new section.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that expanded
7 learning opportunities offered by partnerships between schools and
8 community-based organizations create enriching experiences for youth,
9 with activities that complement and support classroom-based
10 instruction. The legislature further finds that expanded learning
11 opportunities are a key strategy to close the educational opportunity
12 gap, prevent summer learning loss, and prevent school dropout.

13 (2) Therefore the purpose of this act is to build capacity in
14 communities and schools in designing and delivering expanded learning
15 opportunities that target disadvantaged students at risk of school
16 failure or who are enrolled in low-performing schools that experience
17 chronic opportunity gaps.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.300

2 RCW to read as follows:

3 (1) Expanded learning opportunities under sections 3 and 4 of this
4 act have the following characteristics:

5 (a) Offer structured, intentional, creative learning environments
6 outside the traditional school day;

7 (b) Build linkages with schools to align in-school and out-of-
8 school learning;

9 (c) Are coordinated with schools to create enriching experiences
10 with activities that complement classroom-based instruction;

11 (d) In collaboration with schools and educators, are provided by
12 community-based organizations comprising school-based, after-school,
13 and youth development organizations offering before-and-after-school,
14 summer, and extended day, week, or year programs;

15 (e) Provide a range of culturally responsive enrichment and
16 learning activities; and

17 (f) Focus on academic and nonacademic areas; the arts; civic
18 engagement; service-learning; science, technology, engineering, and
19 mathematics; and competencies for college and career readiness, twenty-
20 first century skills, and global citizenship.

21 (2) The target student population to receive expanded learning
22 opportunities under sections 3 and 4 of this act is students in grades
23 kindergarten through eight who:

24 (a) Consistently perform below grade level in academic subjects,
25 course grades, and classroom assessments;

26 (b) Are not meeting standards on statewide assessments,
27 particularly in third grade English language arts;

28 (c) Exhibit high levels of absenteeism and truancy;

29 (d) Are below grade-level expectations in nonacademic areas such as
30 social-emotional and behavioral skills development;

31 (e) Have received discipline referrals for suspension or expulsion;

32 (f) Attend a chronically underperforming school, with high numbers
33 of students not meeting standards on statewide assessments, high
34 numbers of low-income students, and high educational opportunity gaps;
35 or

36 (g) Are "vulnerable students" as defined in RCW 28A.175.074.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.300
2 RCW to read as follows:

3 (1) Subject to funds appropriated specifically for this purpose,
4 the summer expanded learning opportunities grant program is
5 established. The purpose of the grant program is to build capacity for
6 partnerships between schools and community-based organizations to
7 design and deliver evidence-based and innovative enrichment programs
8 designed to prevent summer learning loss among target student
9 populations.

10 (2) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall
11 identify criteria for the award of grants, with a strong priority for
12 grants to applications demonstrating the following:

13 (a) Strong partnerships between schools and community-based
14 organizations, including the availability of matching funds or in-kind
15 donations;

16 (b) Services for large numbers of the target student population
17 with the highest needs; and

18 (c) Culturally responsive family and community engagement and
19 capacity building for communities with low-performing schools,
20 pervasive poverty, cultural barriers, and geographic isolation.

21 (3) The office of the superintendent of public instruction must
22 award grants proportionately between applying community-based
23 organizations and school districts or educational service districts.
24 Grant funds may be expended to support pupil transportation to and from
25 the expanded learning opportunities programs. Grant recipients must
26 collect data on program inputs and outcomes as specified by the office
27 of the superintendent of public instruction, and the office must
28 conduct a program evaluation of the grants using the collected data and
29 other information that focuses on improved student outcomes. The
30 office must prepare an evaluation report for the summer expanded
31 learning opportunities grant program every two years.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.300
33 RCW to read as follows:

34 (1) Subject to funds appropriated specifically for this purpose,
35 the office of the superintendent of public instruction shall contract
36 with a statewide nonprofit organization to build capacity for, promote,
37 and sustain an expanded learning opportunities system for elementary

1 and secondary education and to support implementation of the summer
2 expanded learning opportunities grant program established under section
3 3 of this act.

4 (2) The selected organization must have skills as a state
5 intermediary and experience in building statewide capacity for
6 partnerships between schools and community-based organizations,
7 including convening partners, providing technical assistance, offering
8 training and professional development, establishing data-sharing
9 protocols, monitoring student outcomes, and using evidence-based
10 strategies for student-centered learning, quality standards, core
11 competencies, and continuous improvement.

12 (3) Under the terms of the contract, the organization must:

13 (a) Implement a statewide communications plan to enhance awareness
14 of expanded learning opportunities as a strategy to close the
15 opportunity gap, prevent summer learning loss, and prevent school
16 dropout;

17 (b) Convene regional networks of schools, community-based
18 organizations, local government agencies, institutions of higher
19 education, educational service districts, and businesses to develop
20 expanded learning opportunities and leverage local and regional
21 resources;

22 (c) Coordinate an outreach campaign to bring public and private
23 organizations together and provide information about expanded learning
24 opportunities and grant opportunities;

25 (d) Provide technical assistance, training, and professional
26 development to support the activities and initiatives under section 3
27 of this act and build statewide capacity for strong partnerships,
28 quality expanded learning opportunities, use of evidence-based and
29 innovative enrichment and experiential strategies, and cultural
30 competence and responsiveness; and

31 (e) Report annually to the office of the superintendent of public
32 instruction on the activities under this section.

33 (4) The office of the superintendent of public instruction, in
34 consultation with the contracted nonprofit organization under this
35 section, shall develop guidelines, templates, and frameworks that
36 support model partnerships between schools and community-based
37 organizations to support expanded learning opportunities, to include:

- 1 (a) Memoranda of understanding between schools and community-based
2 organizations;
- 3 (b) Models for frequent communication between schools and
4 community-based organizations;
- 5 (c) Data-sharing agreements allowing for monitoring of student
6 academic progress and outcomes;
- 7 (d) Regularly updated student-centered learning plans;
- 8 (e) Family engagement to support participating students in and out
9 of school;
- 10 (f) Continuous quality improvement;
- 11 (g) Quality standards;
- 12 (h) Joint professional development for schools and community-based
13 organizations; and
- 14 (i) Opportunities to leverage local resources and nonpublic funds.

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