
SECOND SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6380

State of Washington

60th Legislature

2008 Regular Session

By Senate Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Senators Eide, Brown, McAuliffe, Marr, Shin, Kohl-Welles, and Weinstein)

READ FIRST TIME 02/12/08.

1 AN ACT Relating to enhancing school library programs; and creating
2 new sections.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature recognizes the important
5 role that librarians and library programs play in contributing to the
6 goals of education reform that were begun in 1993. Education reform is
7 based on the premise that every Washington student be provided the
8 opportunity to access an educational program that will give him or her
9 the fundamental tools necessary to compete in whatever career path he
10 or she chooses beyond high school and be successful.

11 The legislature further recognizes that school libraries and school
12 library media programs are critical components of those educational
13 programs. Students in all schools, regardless of size, should have
14 access to these instructional resources and services in order to fully
15 benefit from their classroom instruction. While the legislature
16 created the basic education finance task force last year to develop
17 recommendations for how to fund core educational services, the
18 legislature finds that, as school districts across the state continue

1 to cut library services, there is a heightened sense of urgency for a
2 short-term bridge of funding to enable districts to maintain critical
3 instructional resources.

4 It is therefore the intent of the legislature to provide additional
5 funding in the 2008 legislative session to help school districts keep
6 their library doors open and accessible for their students while also
7 encouraging the basic education finance task force to consider the
8 crucial role of highly qualified certificated staff in its
9 deliberations over how to fund the K-12 educational system and
10 ultimately achieve the goals of education reform.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The funding provided by this section
12 shall be used to augment current funding for librarian programs
13 provided through basic education and other existing funding mechanisms
14 and shall not be used to supplant any existing state, federal, or local
15 funding used for library staff or programs. In order to receive
16 allocations under this section, school districts must agree that to the
17 maximum extent possible they will ensure that library programs and
18 services are equitably provided throughout the district. In order to
19 receive an allocation under this section, class II school districts, as
20 defined in RCW 28A.300.065, shall also agree to provide daily operation
21 of school library services in all schools of the district, exclusive of
22 schools without library facilities. The office of the superintendent
23 of public instruction shall adopt rules to implement these
24 requirements.

25 (2) For the 2008-09 school year, every school district shall
26 receive an allocation of twelve dollars per full-time equivalent
27 student to maintain and improve library materials, collections, and
28 services.

29 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** If specific funding for the purposes of this
30 act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not provided by
31 June 30, 2008, in the omnibus appropriations act, this act is null and
32 void.

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