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SENATE BILL 6259

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State of Washington                      52nd Legislature                      1992 Regular Session

By Senators Moore, Skratek and Pelz

Read first time 01/22/92. Referred to Committee on Education.

1            AN ACT Relating to before-and-after-school child care; amending RCW  
2 28A.215.010; adding new sections to chapter 28A.215 RCW; and making an  
3 appropriation.

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

5            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.**            The legislature finds that school-age  
6 children need the opportunity to attend a quality, developmentally  
7 appropriate before-and-after-school care program. The cost of before-  
8 and-after-school programs creates financial hardships for many families  
9 and often results in children being left alone at home. A structured  
10 before-and-after-school program can ensure the safety and welfare of  
11 school-age children.

12            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 2.**            (1) The office of the superintendent of  
13 public instruction shall create a before-and-after-school child care

1 program. Under the program, each school district board of directors  
2 shall provide for before-and-after-school child care for eligible  
3 children enrolled in grades kindergarten through six. The board may  
4 contract for services and space as necessary and for services to be  
5 offered jointly by more than one school building or district.

6 (2) The program shall be available to children in kindergarten  
7 through sixth grade whose parents are employed, if living with both  
8 parents, or whose parent is employed, attending school, or a job  
9 training program if from a single parent household. The rules shall  
10 provide that other children may participate in the program at full  
11 cost.

12 (3) Districts shall implement programs to serve all eligible  
13 students in grades kindergarten through six for the 1992-93 school  
14 year.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) The office of the superintendent of  
16 public instruction shall distribute funds appropriated by the  
17 legislature to school districts for the program.

18 (2) The superintendent of public instruction shall adopt rules as  
19 necessary under chapter 34.05 RCW. The rules shall include:

20 (a) Standards for care;

21 (b) Procedures for application and distribution of funds to school  
22 districts; and

23 (c) Limits on local fees to no more than ten percent of the program  
24 cost and providing for waivers or reductions in tuition or fees in the  
25 cases of students whose families, by reason of their low incomes, would  
26 have difficulty paying the entire amount of the tuition or fees. At a  
27 minimum, any tuition or fees shall be waived for students whose family  
28 income is at or below one hundred eighty-five percent of the federal  
29 poverty line.

1       **Sec. 4.** RCW 28A.215.010 and 1969 ex.s. c 223 s 28A.34.010 are each  
2 amended to read as follows:

3       The board of directors of any school district shall have the power  
4 to establish and maintain nursery schools and to provide before-and-  
5 after-school and vacation care in connection with the common schools of  
6 said district located at such points as the board shall deem most  
7 suitable for the convenience of the public, for the care and  
8 instruction of infants and children residing in said district. The  
9 board shall establish such courses, activities, rules, and regulations  
10 governing nursery schools and before-and-after-school care as it may  
11 deem best: PROVIDED, That these courses and activities shall meet the  
12 minimum standard for such nursery schools as established by the United  
13 States Department of Health, Education and Welfare, or its successor  
14 agency, and the state board of education. Except as otherwise provided  
15 by state or federal law, the board of directors may fix a reasonable  
16 charge for the care and instruction of children attending such schools.  
17 Fees for before-and-after-school child care shall be set by the  
18 superintendent of public instruction in accordance with section 3 of  
19 this act. The board may, if necessary, supplement such funds as are  
20 received for the superintendent of public instruction or any agency of  
21 the federal government, by an appropriation from the general school  
22 fund of the district.

23       NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.**       The sum of two hundred thirty-five  
24 million five hundred thousand dollars, or as much thereof as is  
25 necessary, is appropriated for the biennium ending June 30, 1993, from  
26 the state general fund to the office of the superintendent of public  
27 instruction for the purposes of before-and-after-school child care  
28 programs.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 6.**        Sections 1 through 3 of this act are  
2 each added to chapter 28A.215 RCW.