

---

ENGROSSED SECOND SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1036

---

State of Washington

54th Legislature

1995 Regular Session

By House Committee on Appropriations (originally sponsored by Representatives Backlund, Brumsickle, Sherstad, Carlson, Dyer, Kremen, Horn, Schoesler, Buck, Johnson, Thompson, Radcliff, Hickel, Elliot, Pennington, Carrell, Robertson, Foreman, Van Luven, Koster, D. Schmidt, Mulliken, Fuhrman, Campbell, L. Thomas, Huff, Mielke, Talcott, Silver, McMahan and Casada)

Read first time 02/21/95.

1 AN ACT Relating to a performance audit of the office of the  
2 superintendent of public instruction; adding a new section to chapter  
3 43.88 RCW; creating a new section; providing an expiration date; and  
4 declaring an emergency.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 43.88 RCW  
7 to read as follows:

8 (1) The legislature finds that student learning in Washington state  
9 will increase if the organizations and individuals in the K-12  
10 education system use available funds more economically and efficiently.  
11 In order to increase economy and efficiency at the state level, the  
12 state auditor shall conduct a comprehensive performance audit of the  
13 office of the superintendent of public instruction. It is the intent  
14 of the legislature to audit programs operated and/or implemented by the  
15 office of the superintendent of public instruction and that funds saved  
16 through increased economy and efficiency in the office of the  
17 superintendent of public instruction be directed to the classroom.

18 (2) The audit must include:

1 (a) An evaluation of the efficiency with which the office of the  
2 superintendent of public instruction operates the programs under its  
3 jurisdiction and fulfills the duties assigned to it by law;

4 (b) Identification of potential cost savings and of any program or  
5 service now offered by the office of the superintendent of public  
6 instruction that can be eliminated or transferred to the private sector  
7 without injury to the public good and well-being;

8 (c) Recommendations for the elimination of or reduction in funding  
9 to various agencies, programs, or services based on the results of the  
10 performance audit;

11 (d) Analysis of gaps and overlaps in programs offered by the office  
12 of the superintendent of public instruction and recommendations for  
13 improving, dropping, blending, or separating functions to correct gaps  
14 or overlaps;

15 (e) Which activities of the office of the superintendent of public  
16 instruction are a result of legal mandates; which activities are the  
17 result of legislative and/or client requests; and which activities do  
18 not serve a useful purpose; and

19 (f) What fiscal savings could be achieved by the state or by  
20 districts by eliminating the programs that are determined to serve no  
21 useful purpose.

22 (3) The state auditor may require any state agency to provide  
23 information required for completion of the audit, and each state agency  
24 shall fully and completely cooperate with the state auditor for the  
25 purposes of this section.

26 (4) The office of the state auditor shall provide the staff  
27 necessary for the audit. The state auditor shall involve private-  
28 sector professional and technical experts in conducting the audit, and  
29 may contract with private-sector professionals and technical experts  
30 for that purpose.

31 (5) The state auditor shall solicit suggestions for purposes of  
32 this audit from legislators, the governor, school district and  
33 educational service district employees, parents, students, state-wide  
34 education and parent associations, and other appropriate interest  
35 groups.

36 (6) The state auditor may require the superintendent of public  
37 instruction to provide information required for completion of the  
38 audit, and the superintendent shall fully and completely cooperate with  
39 the auditor for the purposes of this section.

1 (7) The restriction on conducting performance verifications by the  
2 state auditor in RCW 43.88.160(6)(c) does not apply to this section.

3 (8) The state auditor shall report its findings to the legislature  
4 by November 15, 1995.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** If specific funding for the purposes of this  
6 act, referencing this act by bill number, is not provided by June 30,  
7 1995, in the omnibus appropriations act, this act is null and void.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** This act is necessary for the immediate  
9 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the  
10 state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take  
11 effect immediately.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act shall expire December 31, 1995.

--- END ---