
SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8000

State of Washington 55th Legislature 1997 Regular Session

By Senator Hochstatter

Read first time 01/14/97. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 TO THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION:

2 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of
3 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully
4 represent and petition as follows:

5 WHEREAS, The Legislature recognizes its responsibilities in helping
6 establish and maintain high standards in education for all students at
7 all grade levels in Washington; and

8 WHEREAS, All Washington K-12 students will soon be required to
9 demonstrate progress toward essential learning requirements at regular
10 intervals, culminating in a certificate of mastery; and

11 WHEREAS, The success of students in meeting these requirements will
12 depend upon teaching and guidance by educators who are enthusiastic
13 about teaching and literate in the subject matter that the students
14 must master; and

15 WHEREAS, It is the responsibility of Washington's colleges of
16 education to prepare teachers who are skilled in their profession,
17 literate in the content of the essential academic learning
18 requirements, and qualified to create an exciting educational
19 experience for their students, thus inspiring them to further
20 intellectual adventures in these subjects; and

1 WHEREAS, The Washington State Higher Education Coordinating Board
2 has adopted resolutions encouraging the state colleges of education to
3 review their curriculum requirements to assure that teachers will be
4 literate in the subjects defined by the Legislature and encouraging the
5 State Board of Education to enact changes in the Washington
6 Administrative Code that will require teacher candidates to complete
7 coursework demonstrating literacy in the essential academic learning
8 requirements; and

9 WHEREAS, The State Board of Education has received amendatory
10 language to a proposed rule that would require all teacher candidates
11 to complete a well-planned sequence of courses through which they can
12 demonstrate literacy in the subjects identified by the Legislature in
13 the Improvement of Student Achievement Act of 1993; and

14 WHEREAS, The Legislature supports and advocates the axiom that all
15 K-12 teachers should be literate in the essential academic learning
16 requirements;

17 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that the State
18 Board of Education amend its proposed rule and other appropriate
19 provisions to the Washington Administrative Code to provide that all
20 graduates from the state's colleges of education will have completed
21 coursework to assure their literacy in the essential academic learning
22 requirements, and that all K-12 teachers in the state will, within the
23 near future, complete in-service training programs to accomplish this
24 essential professional competence.

25 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately
26 transmitted to the State Board of Education.

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