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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1849**

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**State of Washington**

**62nd Legislature**

**2011 Regular Session**

**By** House Education Appropriations & Oversight (originally sponsored by Representatives Haigh, Santos, Dammeier, Sequist, Finn, Maxwell, Sullivan, Probst, Hunt, Anderson, Frockt, Kenney, and Kagi)

READ FIRST TIME 02/24/11.

1       AN ACT Relating to establishing the Washington state education  
2 council; creating new sections; and providing an expiration date.

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

4       NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the long-term  
5 success and prosperity of individual Washington state citizens and the  
6 state as a whole depends on a high-quality public education system that  
7 begins with learning for young children and continues seamlessly  
8 through the common schools and a range of postsecondary and advanced  
9 education alternatives. All aspects of the state's public education  
10 system must be focused on the objective of student readiness and  
11 equitable student achievement. Therefore, the legislature intends to  
12 assign a single state entity with strategic oversight of the public  
13 education system; assign primary supervisory responsibility of that  
14 system to a single state agency; and initiate a transition to  
15 accomplish these goals.

16       NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 2.** (1) The Washington state education council  
17 is established. The mission of the council is to recommend policies,  
18 strategies, and a governance structure to make the public education

1 system student-focused and able to provide seamless service delivery  
2 across all education sectors and entities, including early learning,  
3 kindergarten through twelfth grade education in the common schools, and  
4 postsecondary education.

5 (2) The Washington state education council is composed of  
6 twenty-three members who shall represent the full spectrum of interests  
7 and expertise in public education, from early learning through K-12 and  
8 postsecondary education. In developing lists of candidates for  
9 membership of the council, the organizations under this subsection (2)  
10 must include individuals who have knowledge and experience in working  
11 with historically underrepresented populations, including but not  
12 limited to students with disabilities, English language learners, and  
13 culturally diverse students and communities. The council shall  
14 comprise:

15 (a) Two representatives of early learning programs and providers,  
16 selected from six candidates submitted by advocacy organizations and  
17 advisory committees on early learning;

18 (b) One public school administrator, selected from three candidates  
19 submitted by the Washington association of school administrators;

20 (c) One public school director, selected from three candidates  
21 submitted by the Washington state school directors' association;

22 (d) One public school principal, selected from three candidates  
23 submitted by the association of Washington school principals;

24 (e) One parent, selected from three candidates submitted by the  
25 Washington state parent teacher association;

26 (f) One career and technical educator, selected from three  
27 candidates submitted by the Washington association for career and  
28 technical education;

29 (g) One K-12 teacher, selected from three candidates submitted by  
30 employee associations representing teachers;

31 (h) One community or technical college faculty member, selected  
32 from three candidates submitted by employee associations representing  
33 college faculty;

34 (i) One faculty member from a four-year public institution of  
35 higher education, selected from three candidates submitted by the  
36 faculty senates of the four-year public colleges and universities;

37 (j) One representative of classified employees, selected from three

1 candidates submitted by employee associations representing such  
2 employees;

3 (k) Two representatives of four-year public institutions of higher  
4 education, selected from six candidates submitted by the council of  
5 presidents;

6 (l) Two representatives of community and technical colleges,  
7 selected from six candidates submitted by the Washington association of  
8 community and technical colleges;

9 (m) One representative of private education, selected from three  
10 candidates submitted by associations representing approved private  
11 schools, private career schools, and independent colleges and  
12 universities;

13 (n) One representative of the business community, selected from  
14 three candidates submitted by the partnership for learning;

15 (o) One representative of the office of the governor;

16 (p) The superintendent of public instruction; and

17 (q) Four members of the legislature, with two appointed by the  
18 speaker of the house of representatives, one from each of the two major  
19 caucuses of the house of representatives and two appointed by the  
20 president of the senate, one from each of the two major caucuses of the  
21 senate.

22 (3) Except for the superintendent of public instruction and the  
23 legislative members, members of the council are appointed by the  
24 governor. In making appointments, the governor shall consider the  
25 diversity of the population of the state and strive for a balanced  
26 representation of the state's geographic regions. The governor shall  
27 also ensure that the membership of the council includes individuals who  
28 have knowledge and experience in working with historically  
29 underrepresented populations, including but not limited to students  
30 with disabilities, English language learners, and culturally diverse  
31 students and communities.

32 (4) The superintendent of public instruction shall convene the  
33 council and act as temporary chair until the council has an opportunity  
34 to select a chair and vice chair from among its members.

35 (5) Ten voting members of the council constitute a quorum for the  
36 transaction of business. The legislative members of the council may  
37 participate in meetings of the council but may not vote. Except for

1 the legislative members, all other members of the council are voting  
2 members.

3 (6) Members of the council, including the legislative members,  
4 shall not be compensated for their service on the council and shall not  
5 be reimbursed for travel expenses. In order to conserve resources, the  
6 council shall maximize the use of technology to conduct its work and  
7 shall meet only in public facilities.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) The intent of the legislature is:

9 (a) To establish a primary strategic oversight and advocacy board  
10 for the public education system, to encompass early learning, K-12  
11 education, and postsecondary education; and

12 (b) To consolidate supervision over matters pertaining to the  
13 public education system within a primary state agency, to encompass  
14 early learning, K-12 education, and postsecondary education. The  
15 legislature intends that supervision include exercising the  
16 administrative, ministerial, and operational duties necessary to carry  
17 out the recommendations of the oversight and advocacy board and  
18 fulfilling duties otherwise assigned by law.

19 (2) The legislature does not intend this act to affect the  
20 statutory authority of school district boards of directors, directors  
21 of educational service districts, or boards of regents or trustees of  
22 institutions of higher education as defined in RCW 28B.10.016.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) The Washington state education council  
24 shall develop a transition plan to implement the intent of the  
25 legislature as articulated in section 3 of this act.

26 (2) The transition plan must address restructuring of the duties,  
27 responsibilities, and authority of the following state entities:

28 (a) The higher education coordinating board established under RCW  
29 28B.76.040;

30 (b) The state board for community and technical colleges  
31 established under RCW 28B.50.050;

32 (c) The state board of education established under RCW 28A.305.011;

33 (d) The professional educator standards board established under RCW  
34 28A.410.200;

35 (e) The quality education council established under RCW  
36 28A.290.010;

1 (f) The achievement gap oversight and accountability committee  
2 established under RCW 28A.300.136;

3 (g) The Washington state school directors' association established  
4 under RCW 28A.345.010;

5 (h) The office of the education ombudsman established under RCW  
6 43.06B.010;

7 (i) The education research and data center established under RCW  
8 43.41.400;

9 (j) The department of early learning established under RCW  
10 43.215.020;

11 (k) The early learning advisory council established under RCW  
12 43.215.090; and

13 (1) The office of the superintendent of public instruction.

14 (3) For the purposes of the transition plan, restructuring shall  
15 include reassigning, removing, or modifying the duties and  
16 responsibilities of the identified state entities and eliminating or  
17 modifying identified state entities as necessary to achieve more  
18 efficient and effective service delivery and more seamless oversight  
19 and policy for the public education system.

20 (4) The transition plan must also address specific roles,  
21 responsibilities, membership, and appointment of the strategic  
22 oversight and advocacy board for the public education system, and the  
23 recommended means of designating the director of the primary state  
24 agency responsible for supervision of the public education system.

25 (5) The council may establish advisory committees on specific  
26 topics to receive adequate input, expertise, and participation from  
27 education providers and community representatives in developing the  
28 transition plan. Each advisory committee must include at least three  
29 members of the council. Advisory committee members serve without  
30 compensation or state reimbursement for travel expenses.

31 (6) The council must submit a preliminary progress report to the  
32 governor and the legislature by January 5, 2012.

33 (7) The council must submit a proposed transition plan to  
34 restructure strategic oversight and supervision of the public education  
35 system, along with the legislation necessary to implement the plan, to  
36 the governor and the legislature by December 5, 2012.

1        NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 5.**   The office of the superintendent of public  
2 instruction may assign no more than two full-time equivalent staff to  
3 support the Washington state education council, with one assigned to  
4 provide research support and one assigned to provide administrative  
5 support.   The council may request assistance from other state agencies  
6 as needed.

7        NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 6.**   This act expires June 30, 2013.

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