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HOUSE BILL 1897

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State of Washington

68th Legislature

2024 Regular Session

**By** Representatives Springer, Hackney, Rule, Doglio, Walen, Timmons, Reeves, Chapman, Entenman, Senn, Slatter, Fey, Bateman, Duerr, Berg, Riccelli, Simmons, Stearns, Leavitt, Rude, Connors, Ybarra, Corry, Steele, Low, and Barnard

Prefiled 12/06/23.

1 AN ACT Relating to enrichment funding for charter public schools;  
2 amending RCW 28A.710.280; and creating a new section.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the population  
5 of Washington state has become increasingly diverse over the last  
6 several decades. The legislature also finds that as the demographics  
7 of our state change, historically and currently marginalized  
8 communities still do not have the same opportunities to meet parity  
9 as their nonmarginalized counterparts across nearly every measure  
10 including education, poverty, employment, health, and more.  
11 Inequities based on race, ethnicity, gender, and other  
12 characteristics continue to be deep, pervasive, and persistent, and  
13 they come at a great economic and social cost.

14 The legislature finds that state government must identify and  
15 coordinate effective strategies that focus on eliminating systemic  
16 barriers for historically and currently marginalized groups and that  
17 providing equitable enrichment funding for charter public school  
18 students is an important step toward promoting opportunities for  
19 communities that have not always been well-served by traditional  
20 public schools.

1       **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.710.280 and 2021 c 111 s 12 are each amended to  
2 read as follows:

3       (1) The legislature intends that state funding for charter  
4 schools be distributed equitably with state funding provided for  
5 other public schools. A charter school is eligible to apply for state  
6 grants on the same basis as a school district.

7       (2) For eligible students enrolled in a charter school  
8 established and operating in accordance with this chapter, the  
9 superintendent of public instruction shall transmit to each charter  
10 school an amount calculated as provided in this section and based on  
11 the statewide average salaries set forth in RCW 28A.150.410 for  
12 certificated instructional staff adjusted by the regionalization  
13 factor that applies to the school district in which the charter  
14 school is geographically located, including any enrichment to those  
15 statutory formulae that is specified in the omnibus appropriations  
16 act. The amount must be the sum of (a) and (b) of this subsection.

17       (a) The superintendent shall, for purposes of making  
18 distributions under this section, separately calculate and distribute  
19 to charter schools moneys appropriated for general apportionment  
20 under the same ratios as in RCW 28A.150.260.

21       (b) The superintendent also shall, for purposes of making  
22 distributions under this section, and in accordance with the  
23 applicable formulae for categorical programs specified in (b)(i)  
24 through ~~((v))~~ (vi) of this subsection (2) and any enrichment to  
25 those statutory formulae that is specified in the omnibus  
26 appropriations act, separately calculate and distribute moneys  
27 appropriated by the legislature to charter schools for:

28       (i) Supplemental instruction and services for students who are  
29 not meeting academic standards through the learning assistance  
30 program under RCW 28A.165.005 through 28A.165.065;

31       (ii) Supplemental instruction and services for eligible and  
32 enrolled students and exited students whose primary language is other  
33 than English through the transitional bilingual instruction program  
34 under RCW 28A.180.010 through 28A.180.080;

35       (iii) The opportunity for an appropriate education at public  
36 expense as defined by RCW 28A.155.020 for all eligible students with  
37 disabilities as defined in RCW 28A.155.020;

38       (iv) Programs for highly capable students under RCW 28A.185.010  
39 through 28A.185.030; ~~((and))~~

1 (v) Pupil transportation services to and from school in  
2 accordance with RCW 28A.160.150 through 28A.160.180. Distributions  
3 for pupil transportation must be calculated on a per eligible student  
4 basis based on the allocation for the previous school year to the  
5 school district in which the charter school is located; and

6 (vi) Enrichment of the state's statutory program of basic  
7 education as authorized under RCW 28A.150.276 for charter schools  
8 located within the boundaries of a school district in which the  
9 voters of such school district have authorized tax levies for  
10 enrichment funding as provided under RCW 84.52.053(1). The  
11 superintendent of public instruction must distribute to each charter  
12 school a per-pupil enrichment grant in the amount of the state local  
13 effort assistance threshold as defined in RCW 28A.500.015.

14 (3) The superintendent of public instruction must adopt rules  
15 necessary for the distribution of funding required by this section  
16 and to comply with federal reporting requirements.

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