
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2381

State of Washington

64th Legislature

2016 Regular Session

By House Education (originally sponsored by Representatives Ortiz-Self, Kilduff, Walsh, Peterson, Gregerson, Cody, Caldier, Jinkins, Reykdal, Frame, Stanford, Sells, McBride, Bergquist, and Pollet)

1 AN ACT Relating to creating a task force on school counselors,
2 psychologists, and social workers; creating a new section; and
3 providing an expiration date.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1)(a) The Washington professional
6 educator standards board shall convene a task force on school
7 counselors, psychologists, and social workers, with members as
8 provided in this subsection.

9 (i) The president of the senate shall appoint one member from the
10 early learning and K-12 education committee.

11 (ii) The speaker of the house of representatives shall appoint
12 one member from the education committee.

13 (iii) The governor shall appoint one member representing school
14 counselor, psychologist, and social worker preparation programs.

15 (iv) The superintendent of public instruction shall appoint one
16 member representing the office of the superintendent of public
17 instruction.

18 (v) The professional educator standards board shall appoint one
19 member representing the professional educator standards board.

20 (vi) The professional educator standards board shall appoint one
21 member each from associations representing: School counselors; school

1 psychologists; school social workers; educators; and principals.
2 Appointments made under this subsection (1)(a)(vi) must be from lists
3 of candidates provided by the associations.

4 (b) The professional educator standards board must provide staff
5 support for the task force.

6 (c) Appointments made under this section by the president of the
7 senate and the speaker of the house of representatives must be from
8 different political parties.

9 (2) The task force shall review the following issues:

10 (a) The projected need of school districts for school counselors,
11 psychologists, and social workers;

12 (b) The current capacity of the state for meeting this need;

13 (c) Alternative certification routes for school counselors and
14 social workers; and

15 (d) School counselor, psychologist, and social worker preparation
16 programs to determine whether professionals completing these programs
17 have the proper preparation to respond to the mental health and
18 safety needs of students, and to provide students with necessary
19 social and emotional supports.

20 (3) The task force must, in accordance with RCW 43.01.036, report
21 its findings and recommendations to the appropriate committees of the
22 legislature, the professional educator standards board, the
23 superintendent of public instruction, and the governor by December 1,
24 2016.

25 (4) This section expires July 1, 2017.

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