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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2543**

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**State of Washington****65th Legislature****2018 Regular Session**

**By** House Education (originally sponsored by Representatives Lovick, Irwin, Springer, Kirby, Doglio, Frame, Chandler, Stokesbary, Griffey, Volz, Ortiz-Self, McBride, Senn, Gregerson, Muri, and Pollet)

1 AN ACT Relating to establishing regional school safety centers in  
2 educational service districts; amending RCW 28A.300.273; and creating  
3 a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature acknowledges the  
6 Washington state institute for public policy's 2017 report on funding  
7 for safety and security in schools indicates that:

8 (a) Legislative requirements and funding for school safety and  
9 security have evolved over time. Since 2001, public schools have been  
10 required to create comprehensive safe school plans. Since about the  
11 same time, the school safety center and the safety advisory  
12 committee, within the office of the superintendent of public  
13 instruction, have overseen safety-related activities across the  
14 state, helped coordinate these efforts, and provided school safety-  
15 related advice and resources. In 2009, the legislature restructured  
16 the education funding formula, which in part, created a funding  
17 category for classified staff for providing student and staff safety  
18 at prototypical elementary, middle, and high schools, and a funding  
19 category for security and central office administration. In general,  
20 districts have discretion over how this money is spent. In 2013, the

1 legislature required school districts building or remodeling school  
2 buildings to design the plans with specific security features.

3 (b) Total funding for school safety and security has increased  
4 dramatically since 2008. The largest and most stable source of school  
5 safety funding in Washington is provided through the state's  
6 education funding formula. Total funding for school safety and  
7 security was just over four million dollars in the 2009-2011  
8 biennium. In the 2011-2013 biennium, total funding jumped to over  
9 twenty-four million five hundred thousand dollars, with over eighty  
10 percent from the state's education funding formula. In the 2013-2015  
11 biennium, total funding peaked at nearly thirty-seven million  
12 dollars, but just over sixty-two percent was from the state's  
13 education funding formula. In the 2015-2017 biennium, total funding  
14 dropped to fifteen million seven hundred thousand dollars, but nearly  
15 ninety-three percent was from the state's education funding formula.

16 (2) In 2016, the legislature took steps toward establishing cost-  
17 effective methods for maintaining and increasing school safety  
18 (chapter 240, Laws of 2016) by:

19 (a) Requiring legislators and school safety experts to meet at an  
20 annual school safety summit to focus on establishing and monitoring  
21 the progress of a statewide plan for funding cost-effective methods  
22 for school safety that meet local needs;

23 (b) Directing the Washington state institute for public policy to  
24 evaluate how other states have funded school safety and security  
25 programs and report back by December 1, 2017;

26 (c) Requiring that school district staff training on developing  
27 students' social and emotional skills be made available online; and

28 (d) Authorizing educational service districts to implement a  
29 regional school safety and security program.

30 (3) The legislature finds that state law allows educational  
31 service districts to provide services to school districts and also  
32 allows school districts to purchase services from other  
33 organizations, including educational service districts.

34 (4) Therefore, the legislature intends to direct the annual  
35 safety summit participants to report to the superintendent of public  
36 instruction and the legislature on the progress of and impediments to  
37 implementing an effective and efficient statewide plan for school  
38 safety that meets local needs.

1       **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.300.273 and 2016 c 240 s 3 are each amended to  
2 read as follows:

3       (1) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this  
4 specific purpose, the office of the superintendent of public  
5 instruction and the school safety advisory committee shall hold  
6 annual school safety summits. Each annual summit must focus on  
7 establishing and monitoring the progress of ((a)) implementing an  
8 effective and efficient statewide plan for funding cost-effective  
9 methods for school safety that meets local needs. Other areas of  
10 focus may include planning and implementation of school safety  
11 planning efforts, training of school safety professionals, and  
12 integrating mental health and security measures.

13       (2) Summit participants must be appointed no later than August 1,  
14 2016.

15       (a) The majority and minority leaders of the senate shall appoint  
16 two members from each of the relevant caucuses of the senate.

17       (b) The speaker of the house of representatives shall appoint two  
18 members from each of the two largest caucuses of the house of  
19 representatives.

20       (c) The governor shall appoint one representative.

21       (3) Other summit participants may include representatives from  
22 the office of the superintendent of public instruction, the  
23 department of health, educational service districts, educational  
24 associations, private schools, emergency management, law enforcement,  
25 fire departments, parent organizations, and student organizations.

26       (4) Staff support for the annual summit shall be provided by the  
27 office of the superintendent of public instruction and the school  
28 safety advisory committee.

29       (5) Legislative members of the summit are reimbursed for travel  
30 expenses in accordance with RCW 44.04.120. Nonlegislative members are  
31 not entitled to be reimbursed for travel expenses if they are elected  
32 officials or are participating on behalf of an employer, governmental  
33 entity, or other organization. Any reimbursement for other  
34 nonlegislative members is subject to chapter 43.03 RCW.

35       (6)(a) By November 1, 2019, and in compliance with RCW 43.01.036,  
36 the summit participants must: Review various proposed and implemented  
37 models for regionalizing school safety planning, including proposals  
38 to establish regional safety centers; review the 2017 report on  
39 funding for safety and security in schools prepared by the Washington  
40 state institute for public policy, as required by chapter 240, Laws

1 of 2016; and report to the superintendent of public instruction and  
2 the appropriate committees of the legislature on the progress of  
3 implementing an effective and efficient statewide plan for school  
4 safety that meets local needs.

5 (b) The report must include:

6 (i) Recommendations to ensure that local, regionalized school  
7 safety plans are created and updated;

8 (ii) Identification of best practices for collaboration and  
9 communication within regions for the purpose of improving school  
10 safety;

11 (iii) An analysis of the most effective and efficient methods for  
12 providing regional coordination of school safety efforts, such as  
13 providing mental health support, staff trainings, prevention  
14 planning, mitigation, crisis response, and community recovery;

15 (iv) An analysis of the most effective and efficient methods for  
16 funding regional coordination of school safety efforts, including an  
17 evaluation of the current allocation model of state appropriations  
18 for school safety and security;

19 (v) Identification of obstacles that impede school districts from  
20 using school safety services offered by educational service  
21 districts;

22 (vi) Identification of obstacles that impede educational service  
23 districts from offering school safety resources and services to local  
24 school districts; and

25 (vii) An evaluation of the comparative capacity of educational  
26 service districts and of school districts to deliver the most  
27 effective and efficient school safety resources and services.

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