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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5851**

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**State of Washington**

**66th Legislature**

**2019 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Senators Frockt, Saldaña, Wellman, and Wilson, C.)

1 AN ACT Relating to enhancing educational opportunities for  
2 vulnerable children and youth using funding distributed from the  
3 Puget Sound taxpayer accountability account; and amending RCW  
4 43.79.520.

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

6 **Sec. 1.** RCW 43.79.520 and 2015 3rd sp.s. c 44 s 423 are each  
7 amended to read as follows:

8 (1) (a) The Puget Sound taxpayer accountability account is created  
9 in the state treasury. Moneys in the account may be spent only after  
10 appropriation. Expenditures from the account may only be used for  
11 distribution to counties where a portion of the county is within the  
12 boundaries of a regional transit authority that includes a county  
13 with a population of one million five hundred thousand or more.  
14 Counties may use distributions from the account only (~~for~~  
15 ~~educational services~~) to improve educational outcomes in early  
16 learning, K-12, and higher education including, but not limited to,  
17 for ~~((youths))~~ facilities and programs for children and youth that  
18 are low-income, homeless, or in foster care, or other vulnerable  
19 populations; and for the purposes in subsection (2) of this section.  
20 Counties receiving distributions under this section must track all  
21 expenditures and uses of the funds. To the greatest extent

1 practicable, the expenditures of the counties must follow the  
2 requirements of any transportation subarea equity element used by the  
3 regional transit authority.

4 (2) Counties may use distributions under this section to start  
5 endowments to provide support for improving educational outcomes in  
6 early learning, K-12, and higher education.

7 (3) Beginning September 1, 2017, and by the last day of  
8 September, December, March, and June of each year thereafter, the  
9 state treasurer (~~shall~~) must distribute moneys deposited in the  
10 Puget Sound taxpayer accountability account to counties for which a  
11 portion of the county is within the boundaries of a regional transit  
12 authority that includes a county with a population of one million  
13 five hundred thousand. The treasurer must make the distribution to  
14 the counties on the relative basis of that transit authority's  
15 population that lives within the respective counties.

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