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HOUSE BILL 1746

State of Washington 69th Legislature 2025 Regular Session

By Representatives Springer, Rude, Simmons, Waters, Doglio, and Rule

- AN ACT Relating to local effort assistance for public schools;
- 2 amending RCW 28A.500.015; and creating a new section.
- 3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.500.015 and 2022 c 108 s 4 are each amended to read as follows:
 - (1) Beginning in calendar year 2020 and each calendar year thereafter, the state must provide state local effort assistance funding to supplement school district enrichment levies as provided in this section.
 - (2) (a) For an eligible school district with an actual enrichment levy rate that is less than ((one dollar and fifty cents)) \$1.50 per ((thousand dollars)) \$1,000 of assessed value in the school district, the annual local effort assistance funding is equal to the school district's maximum local effort assistance multiplied by a fraction equal to the school district's actual enrichment levy rate divided by ((one dollar and fifty cents)) \$1.50 per ((thousand dollars)) \$1,000 of assessed value in the school district.
- (b) For an eligible school district with an actual enrichment levy rate that is equal to or greater than ((one dollar and fifty cents)) \$1.50 per ((thousand dollars)) \$1,000 of assessed value in

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the school district, the annual local effort assistance funding is equal to the school district's maximum local effort assistance.

- (c) Beginning in calendar year 2022, for state-tribal education compact schools established under chapter 28A.715 RCW, the annual local effort assistance funding is equal to the actual enrichment levy per student as calculated by the superintendent of public instruction for the previous year for the school district in which the state-tribal education compact school is located, up to a maximum per student amount of ((one thousand five hundred fifty dollars)) \$2,000 as increased by inflation from the 2019 calendar year, multiplied by the student enrollment of the state-tribal education compact school in the prior school year.
- (d) Beginning in calendar year 2025, for charter schools established under chapter 28A.710 RCW, the annual local effort assistance funding is equal to the actual enrichment levy per student as calculated by the superintendent of public instruction for the previous year for the school district in which the charter school is located, up to a maximum per student amount of \$2,000 as increased by inflation from the 2019 calendar year, multiplied by the student enrollment of the charter school in the prior school year.
- (3) The state local effort assistance funding provided under this section is not part of the state's program of basic education deemed by the legislature to comply with the requirements of Article IX, section 1 of the state Constitution.
- (4) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this section unless the context clearly requires otherwise.
- (a) "Eligible school district" means a school district where the amount generated by a levy of ((one dollar and fifty cents)) \$1.50 per ((thousand dollars)) \$1,000 of assessed value in the school district, divided by the school district's total student enrollment in the prior school year, is less than the state local effort assistance threshold.
- (b) For the purpose of this section, "inflation" means, for any school year, the rate of the yearly increase of the previous calendar year's annual average consumer price index for all urban consumers, Seattle area, using the official current base compiled by the bureau of labor statistics, United States department of labor.
- 38 (c) "Maximum local effort assistance" means the difference 39 between the following:

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1 (i) The school district's actual prior school year enrollment 2 multiplied by the state local effort assistance threshold; and

- (ii) The amount generated by a levy of (($\frac{\text{one dollar and fifty}}{\text{cents}}$)) $\frac{\$1.50}{\text{per}}$ per (($\frac{\text{thousand dollars}}{\text{the school district}}$.
- (d) "Prior school year" means the most recent school year completed prior to the year in which the state local effort assistance funding is to be distributed((, except as follows:
- (i) In the 2022 calendar year, if 2019-20 school year average annual full-time equivalent enrollment is greater than the school district's 2020-21 school year average annual full-time equivalent enrollment, "prior school year" means the 2019-20 school year.
 - (ii) In the 2023 calendar year, if 2019-20 school year average annual full-time equivalent enrollment is greater than the school district's 2021-22 school year average annual full-time equivalent enrollment, "prior school year" means the 2019-20 school year)).
 - (e) "State local effort assistance threshold" means ((one thousand five hundred fifty dollars)) \$2,000 per student, increased for inflation beginning in calendar year 2020.
- (f) "Student enrollment" means the average annual full-time equivalent student enrollment.
 - (5) For districts in a high/nonhigh relationship, the enrollments of the nonhigh students attending the high school shall only be counted by the nonhigh school districts for purposes of funding under this section.
- (6) For school districts participating in an innovation academy cooperative established under RCW 28A.340.080, enrollments of students attending the academy shall be adjusted so that each participant district receives its proportional share of student enrollments for purposes of funding under this section.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. Section 1, chapter . . ., Laws of 2025 (section 1 of this act) applies to local effort assistance payments in calendar year 2025 and thereafter. The state must provide full 2025 calendar year local effort assistance funding to eligible school districts, tribal, and charter schools based on the formulas provided in section 1, chapter . . ., Laws of 2025 (section 1 of this act). If local effort assistance distributions for the 2025 calendar year under RCW 28A.500.040 begin prior to the effective date of this section, then the first month following the effective date of this

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- 1 section must include any additional amounts provided under section 1,
- 2 chapter . . ., Laws of 2025 (section 1 of this act) through that
- 3 month based on the schedule prescribed in RCW 28A.500.040.

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