
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1715

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

By House Education (originally sponsored by Representatives Entenman, Boehnke, Jinkins, Ortiz-Self, Bergquist, and Pollet; by request of State Board for Community and Technical Colleges)

1 AN ACT Relating to removing the ability of school districts to
2 withhold grades and transcripts of pupils; and amending RCW
3 28A.635.060 and 28A.325.050.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.635.060 and 1997 c 266 s 13 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (1) Any pupil who defaces or otherwise injures any school
8 property, or property belonging to a school contractor, employee, or
9 another student, is subject to suspension and punishment. If any
10 property of the school district, a contractor of the district, an
11 employee, or another student has been lost or willfully cut, defaced,
12 or injured, the school district may withhold the grades, diploma, and
13 transcripts of the pupil responsible for the damage or loss until the
14 pupil or the pupil's parent or guardian has paid for the damages,
15 except that the school district must release the pupil's grades and
16 transcripts five years after the pupil exits the school district. If
17 the student is suspended, the student may not be readmitted until the
18 student or parents or legal guardian has made payment in full or
19 until directed by the superintendent of schools. If the property
20 damaged is a school bus owned and operated by or contracted to any
21 school district, a student suspended for the damage may not be

1 permitted to enter or ride any school bus until the student or parent
2 or legal guardian has made payment in full or until directed by the
3 superintendent. When the pupil and parent or guardian are unable to
4 pay for the damages, the school district shall provide a program of
5 (~~voluntary work~~) community service opportunities for the pupil (~~in~~
6 ~~lieu~~) instead of the payment of monetary damages. Upon completion of
7 (~~voluntary work~~) community service the grades, diploma, and
8 transcripts of the pupil shall be released. The parent or guardian of
9 such pupil shall be liable for damages as otherwise provided by law.

10 (2) When informing either the pupil or the pupil's parent or
11 guardian that the pupil's grades, diploma, or transcripts are being
12 withheld as allowed under subsection (1) of this section, a school
13 district must provide the following information:

14 (a) The school district may waive the payment of the monetary
15 damage in part or in full;

16 (b) The pupil may make the payment of monetary damages;

17 (c) The pupil may participate in a program of community service
18 opportunities for the pupil instead of the payment of monetary
19 damages; and

20 (d) The school district must release the pupil's grades and
21 transcripts five years after the pupil exits the school district.
22 When the pupil has already exited the school district, the school
23 district must inform the pupil of the date on which the school
24 district is obligated to release the pupil's grades and transcripts.

25 (3) Before any penalties are assessed under this section, a
26 school district board of directors shall adopt procedures which
27 insure that pupils' rights to due process are protected.

28 (~~(3)~~) (4) If the department of social and health services or a
29 child-placing agency licensed by the department has been granted
30 custody of a child, that child's records, if requested by the
31 department or agency, are not to be withheld for nonpayment of school
32 fees or any other reason.

33 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.325.050 and 2014 c 211 s 3 are each amended to
34 read as follows:

35 (1) Each school district that has an associated student body
36 program fund must publish the following information about the fund on
37 its web site:

38 (a) The fund balance at the beginning of the school year;

1 (b) Summary data about expenditures and revenues occurring over
2 the course of the school year; and

3 (c) The fund balance at the end of the school year.

4 (2) Each school district that has an associated student body must
5 publish the following information on its web site: How many former
6 students who were enrolled in the school district within the previous
7 five years are subject to the withholding of their grades, diplomas,
8 or transcripts as permitted under RCW 28A.635.060; and how many of
9 these former students were eligible for the federal free or reduced-
10 price meals program in their last year of enrollment in the school
11 district.

12 (3) The information under this section must be published for each
13 associated student body of the district and each account within the
14 associated student body program fund.

15 ((+3)) (4) If the school district web site contains separate web
16 sites for schools in the district, the information under this section
17 must be published on the web site of the applicable school of the
18 associated student body.

19 ((+4)) (5) No later than August 31, 2014, school districts must
20 publish the information under this section on their web sites for the
21 2012-13 and 2013-14 school years. School districts must add updated
22 annual information to their web sites by each August 31st, except
23 that school districts are only required to maintain the information
24 on the web site from the previous five years.

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