



Washington State Legislature

School Construction Funding, Joint Legislative Task Force Full Committee

Wednesday
December 2, 2009
1:00 p.m.

Sen. Conf. Rms ABC
J.A. Cherberg Building
Olympia, WA

1. JLARC - Preliminary Report on the Pilot Facility Inventory, Condition and Use System
2. K-12 Enrollment Projection Follow-up
3. Regional Differential Follow-up
 - a. Labor costs and poverty levels
 - b. Population by census rather than enrollment
4. Public Comment
5. Draft Final Report and Recommendations:

Proviso directives:

- A. Explore changing the state funding assistance ratio used in the school construction assistance program:
 1. Commission an analysis of per-student space allowance and construction cost allowance, expanded in scope beyond the OSPI September 2009 review.
 2. Recommend the Legislature consider the results of the commissioned study (Recommendation 1) in the context of overall policy goals, and which actions should be considered priorities.
 3. Engage the Caseload Forecast Council staff for K-12 enrollment projections for use in determining eligibility for the School Construction Assistance Program.
- B. Explore methods to accommodate specialized program space and unique building circumstances (such as all-day kindergarten and science labs)
 4. Recommend the Legislature monitor ESHB 2261 and synchronize its implementation with the capital budget and statewide education facility needs. The Quality Education Council established in ESHB 2261 should periodically consult with the House and Senate capital budget chairs and ranking minority members regarding K-12 school facility needs.
 5. Direct the OSPI to submit its biennial capacity report to both House and Senate Capital Budget fiscal committee chairs and ranking minority members as well as to Education and Operating Fiscal Committees.
 6. Recommend the Legislature review JLARC's pilot results for potential action during the 2010 legislative session. Such an inventory system could inform the OSPI's biennial capacity report required in ESHB 2261.
- C. Explore ways to account for regional cost differences in the school construction assistance program formula

D. Other

7. The Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction should work with the Office of the State Treasurer, public school districts, educational service districts, and the Washington State School Directors' Association to discuss best practices and develop options to improve guidance and training to school district on issuing debt.
8. Consistent with best practices recommended by the Government Finance Officers Association, public school districts should utilize independent financial advisors and keep the underwriter and advisor roles separate when bonds are sold or refunded. Issuers must keep in mind that underwriters and financial advisors have distinct roles and that competing interests cannot serve the same function.
9. The Legislature should encourage or require public school districts to establish and implement effective commute trip reduction programs for district employees.

6. Public Comment