

### **Fund Education First budget: Proposed Substitute House Bill 1057 (PSHB 1057)**

- Fund Education First is a solution first introduced by House Republicans in 2006. It would require the Legislature to pass a separate, K-12 education budget before any other state appropriations. This change would elevate education to the highest level in the budget process and ensure it is properly funded each budget cycle.
- The Fund Education First budget, **PSHB 1057**, would:
  - Meet the expectations of [Article IX](#) of the state constitution and the [McCleary](#) decision of the state Supreme Court.
  - Focus on better student outcomes, ensure accountability and take real action to close the achievement gap.
  - Balance the needs of students with the protection of taxpayers, and not include tax increases.

### **Meeting the expectations of the state constitution and state Supreme Court**

- **PSHB 1057** would increase K-12 education funding by **\$903 million** for the 2013-15 budget cycle, with **\$817 million** based on the **McCleary** decision and **\$86 million** dedicated to other policy enhancements. A breakdown of the significant funding increases:
  - **\$302 million** for K-3 class-size reduction.
  - **\$229 million** to expand full-day kindergarten to 61 percent of school districts in the 2013-14 school year, prioritizing high-poverty school districts, and to all school districts in the 2014-15 school year.
  - **\$158 million** for full implementation of increased instructional hours for grades 7-12 by the 2014-15 school year.
  - **\$128 million** for a 29 percent increase in materials, supplies and operating costs (MSOC).
- The Fund Education First budget would also provide funding for I-1240 (charter schools), increased levy equalization funding, a longitudinal data system, health benefit rate adjustments, and a Career and Technical Education correction.
- **PSHB 1057**, by the numbers:
  - Would dedicate **\$15.1 billion** to K-12 education in the 2013-15 budget cycle. The amount for 2011-13 is **\$13.6 billion**.
  - Would increase the percentage of the operating budget allocated to K-12 education from 44 percent in the 2011-13 budget cycle to 46 percent for 2013-15.

### **Student outcomes, accountability and closing the achievement gap**

- The Fund Education First budget would include the following bills:
  - [House Bill 1134](#) would authorize state-tribal education compact schools.
  - [House Bill 1424](#) would enhance the state's K-12 dropout prevention, intervention and reengagement system.
  - [Senate Bill 5237](#) would implement strategies to improve literacy skills for K-4 students.
  - [Senate Bill 5243](#) would establish policies to support academic acceleration for high school students.
  - [Senate Bill 5329](#) would create a state-funded required action process to the state's ten persistently lowest-performing schools.
  - [Senate Bill 5587](#) would modify the statewide assessment system to transition to higher-quality exams.

## Balancing the needs of students with the protection of taxpayers

- **PSHB 1057** would not include tax increases. It would include policy reductions and \$347 million in savings. A breakdown of the significant reductions and savings:
  - **\$295 million** in savings from suspending I-732 for the 2013-15 budget cycle.
  - **\$27 million** in savings for responsibly transitioning to improved student assessments.
  - **\$10 million** in savings from reducing hold harmless funding, which is provided to districts during the transition to the prototypical school funding model.
  - **\$8 million** in savings for one-time adjustment in audit recovering from Alternative Learning Experience programs.

## Article IX, Section 1 of the state constitution

- “It is the paramount duty of the state to make ample provision for the education of all children residing within its borders, without distinction or preference on account of race, color, caste, or sex.”

## McCleary v. State of Washington

- In its [McCleary](#) decision in January 2012, the state Supreme Court said the Legislature has not complied with its constitutional duty to make ample provision for the education of all children. The court said reforms enacted by the Legislature, [House Bill 2261](#) (2009) and [House Bill 2776](#) (2010), would remedy state funding deficiencies if fully funded, and it will retain jurisdiction over the case to monitor implementation of these bills.

## House Bill 2261 (2009)

- Established a new prototypical school funding model that will simplify the budgeting process and increase transparency.
- Required a phase-in of smaller classes of 17 students in K-3 by the 2015-16 school year.
- Required increased funding for the state’s portion of MSOC.
- Implemented a new pupil transportation funding method.
- Accelerated the workgroups focused on local levy and teacher compensation issues.

## House Bill 2776 (2010)

- Specified certain funding enhancements and established deadlines for full funding of each of the following areas: pupil transportation; MSOC; K-3 class-size reduction; and full-day kindergarten.

## Helpful information

- Washington State Legislature <http://www.leg.wa.gov>
- House Appropriations Committee <http://www.leg.wa.gov/house/committees/APP>
- Washington House Republicans <http://houserepublicans.wa.gov>
- Bill information <http://apps.leg.wa.gov/billinfo>
- Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction <http://www.k12.wa.us>

## Contacts

**Rep. Gary Alexander**  
R-Olympia  
(360) 786-7824  
[gary.alexander@leg.wa.gov](mailto:gary.alexander@leg.wa.gov)

**Rep. J.T. Wilcox**  
R-Yelm  
(360) 786-7912  
[jt.wilcox@leg.wa.gov](mailto:jt.wilcox@leg.wa.gov)

**Rep. Cathy Dahlquist**  
R-Enumclaw  
(360) 786-7846  
[cathy.dahlquist@leg.wa.gov](mailto:cathy.dahlquist@leg.wa.gov)