

Implementing Military Compact Task Force Recommendations, AV

Agency: 350 Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction
Budget Period: 2009-11

Recommendation Summary Text (Short Description):

SB 6426, as introduced in the 2008 Legislative Session, would have adopted an interstate compact that is intended to reduce the problems encountered by military dependents when they transfer between school districts in different states. The compact was developed by the Council of State Governments in conjunction with the Department of Defense, selected state education agency representatives, and educators.

Task Force and Membership: The final version of the bill did not adopt the compact, but instead created a task force consisting of legislators, educators, and representatives of the State Board of Education, Attorney General's office, and the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction. Staffing to the Task Force is provided by OSPI.

The Task Force is to review the compact and issue a final report on the following:

- Which components of the compact are currently being substantially implemented in Washington and which are not;
- The implications of and the interplay between the compact and applicable federal education law;
- The implications of and the interplay between the compact and applicable state education law; and
- The legal obligations that the compact would impose on the state if it were to be adopted.

The group also is to address provisions within the compact that raise concerns and to make recommendations on how to address the concerns. A final report, with findings and recommendations, is due by December 1, 2008.

Status: The Task Force has conducted three meetings and three more meetings are scheduled. Draft recommendations are scheduled to be approved at the group's October meeting, and will be finalized in late-November after receiving public comment.

Potential Fiscal Impact: In the event that the Task Force recommends that the compact be adopted, Task Force staff developed a preliminary estimate of the cost. The estimate includes the payment of a fee to the Interstate Military Compact Commission, travel and other costs of the state's representative to the Interstate Commission, and the salary and benefits of a Military/Education Liaison. The estimated cost for the 2009-11 biennium is approximately \$230,000. However, this estimate will change based on the number of states that adopt the compact in the coming year and whether the Task Force recommends that the Military/Education Liaison be funded.

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