

JAY INSLEE
Governor



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To the Honorable President and Members,
The Senate of the State of Washington

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am returning herewith, without my approval as to Section 207, Engrossed Second Substitute Senate Bill No. 6552 entitled:

“AN ACT Relating to improving student success by modifying instructional hour and graduation requirements.”

Section 207 of the bill directs the Office of the Education Ombuds to convene a three-year task force on students with special needs to examine barriers to earning a diploma.

Later this week I will sign the 2014 supplemental budget, Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 6002, which includes a similar directive for the Office of Education Ombuds. As that provision of the budget is implemented, it is important that my ombuds office work closely with the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction and stakeholders to improve education programs and support success for special education students--and all students. Section 207 creates unnecessary duplication.

For these reasons I have vetoed Section 207 of Engrossed Second Substitute Senate Bill No. 6552.

With the exception of Section 207, Engrossed Second Substitute Senate Bill No. 6552 is approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Jay Inslee
Governor