

Executive Summary: Health Impact Review of SHB 1680 On Closing the Educational Opportunity Gap

Evidence from the literature indicates that, overall, SHB 1680 has potential to decrease health disparities in Washington state.

This health impact review found the following evidence regarding the provisions in SHB 1680:

Student Discipline

- Some evidence that closing discipline gaps would decrease student perceptions of discrimination.
- Strong evidence that closing discipline gaps would decrease discipline recidivism and curb the school-to-prison pipeline.
- Very strong evidence that closing discipline gaps would decrease educational opportunity gaps.

Educator Cultural Competence

- Some evidence that cultural competence training would increase the cultural competence of educators.
- Strong evidence that educator cultural competence would decrease educational opportunity gaps.

English Language Learners

- Some evidence that increasing the number of educators with special education, bilingual education, and English language learner endorsements would decrease educational opportunity gaps.
- Strong evidence that the development of a new accountability system for the Transitional Bilingual Instructional Program, if grounded in evidence, would decrease educational opportunity gaps.

Data Disaggregation

- Strong evidence that disaggregating data could provide a better picture of educational opportunity gaps, thereby improving understanding of and the ability to decrease educational opportunity gaps.

Recruitment of Educators of Color

- Strong evidence that modifying the model framework for high school Career and Technical Education courses related to careers in education, creating articulated pathways to teacher certification, and ensuring that paraeducator apprenticeship/certificate programs meet standards of cultural competency would decrease educational opportunity gaps.

The Relationship between Education, Income, and Health

- Very strong evidence that decreasing educational opportunity gaps would decrease gaps in educational attainment.
- Very strong evidence that decreasing gaps in educational attainment would both decrease health disparities directly and indirectly through decreasing income gaps.

For more detailed pathways, strength-of-evidence analyses, and citations of empirical evidence refer to the full health impact review which can be found at:

<http://sboh.wa.gov/Portals/7/Doc/HealthImpactReviews/HIR-2013-01-SHB1680.pdf>

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