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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **WASA Statement on Supreme Court McCleary Order**

*WASA Exec Bill Keim: 'There is unfinished business' for 2018 session*

**OLYMPIA** — Bill Keim, executive director of the Washington Association of School Administrators (WASA), issued the following statement today in the wake of Wednesday's announcement by the Washington State Supreme Court:

"While WASA questions whether the state's new school funding plan amply funds the actual cost of educating all students, we respect the Supreme Court's latest *McCleary* order and are pleased the Court has retained jurisdiction in the case.

Although the Legislature made considerable progress in 2017, there is unfinished business that must be addressed by the Legislature in the 2018 session. The most pressing issue, according to the Court, is that the state must fully implement the plan, including full funding of salaries, by Sept. 1, 2018. The timeline in EHB 2242 didn't meet that deadline, which has been long established by the Court.

In addition to that requirement, we urge the Legislature to address the following reasonable policy adjustments to EHB 2242, which would better serve the over one million students in our state:

1. Continue progress toward full state funding of the actual district costs of educating our students with special needs.
2. Re-implement a state salary schedule along with a salary allocation system that funds districts for the actual training and seniority level of their teaching staff, rather than merely providing a statewide average allocation.
3. Slow the transition to a lower maximum local levy amount, and create a more equitable system for this local contribution to school funding.

We look forward to an ongoing collaboration with our elected leaders as they consider adjustments to EHB 2242 to better serve students across the state, regardless of their zip code.”

***About the Washington Association of School Administrators (WASA):***

*WASA ([www.wasa-oly.org](http://www.wasa-oly.org)) is a non-profit organization committed to the development of quality education through professional leadership. Members benefit from a supportive community of professional leaders working to provide insightful, valuable training support, and resources. WASA also strives to sustain a positive impact on legislative and community leaders. Membership is open to education administrators in Washington state.*

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