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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6280**

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**State of Washington**

**54th Legislature**

**1996 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Committee on Higher Education (originally sponsored by Senators Kohl, Wood, Bauer, Finkbeiner and McAuliffe)

Read first time 02/01/96.

1 AN ACT Relating to higher education fiscal matters; amending RCW  
2 28B.15.031 and 28B.15.615; adding a new section to chapter 28B.15 RCW;  
3 and declaring an emergency.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.15 RCW  
6 to read as follows:

7 (1) Once every four years, the governing board of each of the state  
8 universities, the regional universities, and The Evergreen State  
9 College, upon the agreement of its respective student government  
10 association or its equivalent, may establish and charge each enrolled  
11 student a technology fee, separate from tuition fees. During the 1996-  
12 97 academic year, any technology fee shall not exceed one hundred  
13 twenty dollars for a full-time student. Any technology fee charged to  
14 a part-time student shall be calculated as a pro rata share of the fee  
15 charged to a full-time student.

16 (2) Revenue from this fee shall be used exclusively for technology  
17 resources for general student use.

18 (3) Only changes in the amount of the student technology fee agreed  
19 upon by both the governing board and its respective student government

1 association or its equivalent shall be used to adjust the amount  
2 charged to students. Changes in the amount charged to students, once  
3 implemented, become the basis for future changes.

4 (4) The student government association or its equivalent shall  
5 approve the annual expenditure plan for the fee revenue.

6 (5) As used in this section, "technology fee" is a fee charged to  
7 students to recover, in whole or in part, the costs of providing and  
8 maintaining services to students that include, but need not be limited  
9 to: Access to the internet and world wide web, e-mail, computer and  
10 multimedia work stations and laboratories, computer software, and dial-  
11 up telephone services.

12 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28B.15.031 and 1995 1st sp.s. c 9 s 2 are each amended  
13 to read as follows:

14 The term "operating fees" as used in this chapter shall include the  
15 fees, other than building fees, charged all students registering at the  
16 state's colleges and universities but shall not include fees for short  
17 courses, self-supporting degree credit programs and courses, marine  
18 station work, experimental station work, correspondence or extension  
19 courses, and individual instruction and student deposits or rentals,  
20 disciplinary and library fines, which colleges and universities shall  
21 have the right to impose, laboratory, gymnasium, health, technology and  
22 student activity fees, or fees, charges, rentals, and other income  
23 derived from any or all revenue producing lands, buildings and  
24 facilities of the colleges or universities heretofore or hereafter  
25 acquired, constructed or installed, including but not limited to income  
26 from rooms, dormitories, dining rooms, hospitals, infirmaries, housing  
27 or student activity buildings, vehicular parking facilities, land, or  
28 the appurtenances thereon, or such other special fees as may be  
29 established by any college or university board of trustees or regents  
30 from time to time. All moneys received as operating fees at any  
31 institution of higher education shall be deposited in a local account  
32 containing only operating fees revenue and related interest: PROVIDED,  
33 That a minimum of three and one-half percent of operating fees shall be  
34 retained by the institutions, except the technical colleges, for the  
35 purposes of RCW 28B.15.820. Local operating fee accounts shall not be  
36 subject to appropriation by the legislature or allotment procedures  
37 under chapter 43.88 RCW.

1       **Sec. 3.** RCW 28B.15.615 and 1993 sp.s. c 18 s 23 are each amended  
2 to read as follows:

3       Subject to the limitations of RCW 28B.15.910, the governing boards  
4 of the state universities and the regional universities may exempt the  
5 following students from paying all or a portion of the resident  
6 operating fee and the technology fee: Students granted a graduate  
7 service appointment, designated as such by the institution, involving  
8 not less than twenty hours of work per week. The exemption shall be  
9 for the term of the appointment. ~~((The stipend paid to persons holding  
10 graduate student appointments from nonstate funds shall be reduced and  
11 the institution reimbursed from such funds in an amount equal to the  
12 resident operating fee which funds shall be transmitted to the general  
13 fund.))~~

14       NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 4.** If any provision of this act or its  
15 application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the  
16 remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other  
17 persons or circumstances is not affected.

18       NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 5.** This act is necessary for the immediate  
19 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the  
20 state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take  
21 effect immediately.

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