
HOUSE BILL 1992

State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1993 Regular Session

By Representatives Miller, Jacobsen, Brumsickle, Ballasiotes, Edmondson, Casada, Talcott, Thomas, Schoesler, Horn, Wood, Ogden, Ballard, Tate, Thibaudeau, Long, Kremen, Jones, Quall, Rayburn and J. Kohl

Read first time 02/19/93. Referred to Committee on Higher Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to the students with disabilities endowed
2 scholarship program; and adding a new chapter to Title 28B RCW.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature recognizes the benefit to
5 our state and nation of providing equal educational opportunities for
6 everyone who seeks higher education. The legislature finds that
7 students with disabilities are under represented in Washington's
8 colleges, universities, and vocational-technical institutes. The
9 legislature also finds that past barriers to accessibility and failure
10 to meet the special needs of these students has resulted in this
11 underrepresentation. Creating an endowed scholarship program to help
12 students with disabilities obtain a higher education will help to
13 rectify past inequities by providing a means and an incentive for
14 students with disabilities to pursue a higher education. The state
15 will benefit from contributions made by students with disabilities who
16 participate in a program of higher education.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** Unless the context clearly requires
2 otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout this
3 chapter.

4 (1) "Institution of higher education" or "institution" means a
5 college, university, or vocational-technical institute in the state of
6 Washington which is accredited by an accrediting association recognized
7 as such by rule of the higher education coordinating board.

8 (2) "Board" means the higher education coordinating board.

9 (3) "Eligible student" or "student" means a student with a
10 disability as defined by the board in consultation with the advisory
11 committee described in section 4 of this act, who is a financially
12 needy student, as defined by the board, who is a resident student, as
13 defined by RCW 28B.15.012(2), who is a full-time student at an
14 institution of higher education, or who is making satisfactory progress
15 toward a degree or certificate.

16 (4) "Full-time student" means a student who is making satisfactory
17 progress toward a degree or certificate at the optimum rate allowed by
18 the student's particular disability. This rate shall be determined, on
19 an individual basis, by the advisory committee described in section 4
20 of this act.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The students with disabilities endowed
22 scholarship fund is created. The program shall be administered by the
23 board. In administering the program, the board's powers and duties
24 shall include but not be limited to:

25 (1) Selecting students to receive scholarships with the assistance
26 of a screening committee composed of persons involved in helping
27 students with disabilities obtain a higher education;

28 (2) Adopting necessary rules and guidelines;

29 (3) Publicizing the program;

30 (4) Accepting and depositing donations into the endowment fund
31 created in section 7 of this act;

32 (5) Requesting and accepting from the state treasurer moneys earned
33 from the trust fund and the endowment fund created in sections 6 and 7
34 of this act;

35 (6) Soliciting and accepting grants and donations from public and
36 private sources for the program; and

37 (7) Naming scholarships in honor of disabled citizens who have been
38 role models.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The board shall establish an advisory
2 committee to assist in program design and to develop criteria for the
3 screening and selection of scholarship recipients. The committee shall
4 be composed of persons involved in helping students with disabilities
5 obtain a higher education. The criteria may include a priority for
6 students who are majoring in program areas that could benefit other
7 Americans with disabilities.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** The board may award scholarships to eligible
9 students from moneys earned from the endowment fund created in section
10 7 of this act, or from funds appropriated to the board for this
11 purpose, from any private donations, or from any other funds given to
12 the board for this program. For an undergraduate student, the amount
13 of the scholarship shall not exceed the student's demonstrated
14 financial need. For a graduate student, the amount of the scholarship
15 shall not exceed the student's demonstrated need or the stipend of a
16 teaching assistant, including tuition, at the University of Washington,
17 whichever is higher. In calculating a student's need, the board shall
18 consider the student's costs for tuition, fees, books, supplies,
19 transportation, room, board, personal expenses, child care, and unique
20 costs associated with the student's particular disability. The
21 student's scholarship awarded under this chapter shall not exceed the
22 amount received by a student attending a state research university plus
23 the expenses attributable to the student's disability. These funds
24 shall not be used to relieve institutions of higher education or other
25 agencies from the responsibility for providing necessary reasonable
26 accommodations. A student is eligible to receive a scholarship for a
27 maximum of five years, unless the board determines that accommodation
28 of a particular disability includes more time to complete the degree
29 program.

30 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** The students with disabilities endowed
31 scholarship trust fund is established. The trust fund shall be
32 administered by the state treasurer. Funds appropriated by the
33 legislature for the trust fund shall be deposited into the fund. All
34 moneys deposited in the fund shall be invested by the state treasurer.
35 All earnings of investments of balances of the trust fund shall be
36 credited to the fund. At the request of the board, and when conditions
37 set forth in section 8 of this act are met, the treasurer shall

1 transfer state matching moneys and any earned interest from the trust
2 fund to the students with disabilities scholarship endowment fund. No
3 appropriation is required for expenditures from the trust fund.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** The students with disabilities scholarship
5 endowment fund is established. The endowment fund shall be
6 administered by the state treasurer. Moneys received from the board,
7 private donations, state matching moneys and any earned interest, and
8 funds received from any other source may be deposited into the
9 endowment fund. All moneys deposited in the endowment fund shall be
10 invested by the state treasurer. All earnings of investments of
11 balances of the endowment fund shall be credited to the endowment fund.
12 At the request of the board, the treasurer shall release earnings from
13 the endowment fund to the board for scholarships. No appropriation is
14 required for expenditures from the endowment fund.

15 The principal of the endowment fund shall not be invaded. The
16 earnings on the fund shall be used solely for the purposes set forth in
17 section 5 of this act.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** The board may request that the treasurer
19 deposit fifty thousand dollars of state matching funds and any earned
20 interest into the students with disabilities scholarship endowment fund
21 when the board can match the state funds with an equal amount of
22 private cash donations. Private cash donations means moneys from
23 nonstate sources that include, but are not limited to, federal moneys,
24 and assessments by commodity commissions authorized to conduct research
25 activities, including but not limited to research studies authorized
26 under RCW 15.66.030 and 15.65.040.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** Sections 1 through 8 of this act shall
28 constitute a new chapter in Title 28B RCW.

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