
SENATE BILL 5546

State of Washington **55th Legislature** **1997 Regular Session**

By Senators Jacobsen, Prentice, Prince, Fraser and Winsley

Read first time 01/30/97. Referred to Committee on Higher Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to the Hispanic American endowed scholarship
2 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 all races and nationalities. The legislature finds that Hispanic
7 American students are underrepresented in Washington's colleges and
8 universities. The legislature also finds that past discriminatory
9 practices have resulted in this underrepresentation. Creating an
10 endowed scholarship program to help Hispanic American students obtain
11 a higher education will help to rectify past discrimination by
12 providing a means and an incentive for Hispanic American students to
13 pursue a higher education. The state will benefit from contributions
14 made by Hispanic Americans who participate in a program of higher
15 education.

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

1 (1) "Institution of higher education" or "institution" means a
2 college or university in the state of Washington which is accredited by
3 an accrediting association recognized as such by rule of the higher
4 education coordinating board.

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

6 (3) "Eligible student" or "student" means a Hispanic American
7 student as defined by the board in consultation with the advisory
8 committee described in section 4 of this act, who is a financially
9 needy student, as defined by the board, who is a resident student, as
10 defined by RCW 28B.15.012(2), who is a full-time student at an
11 institution of higher education, and who promises to use his or her
12 education to benefit other Hispanic Americans.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The Hispanic American endowed scholarship
14 program is created. The program shall be administered by the board.
15 In administering the program, the board's powers and duties shall
16 include but not be limited to:

17 (1) Selecting students to receive scholarships, with the assistance
18 of a screening committee composed of persons involved in helping
19 Hispanic American students obtain a higher education;

20 (2) Adopting necessary rules and guidelines;

21 (3) Publicizing the program;

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

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

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

29 (7) Naming scholarships in honor of Hispanic Americans who have
30 acted as role models.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The board shall establish an advisory
32 committee to assist in program design and to develop criteria for the
33 screening and selection of scholarship recipients. The committee shall
34 be composed of persons involved in helping Hispanic American students
35 obtain higher education. The criteria shall include a priority for
36 upper-division or graduate students. The criteria may include a

1 priority for students who are majoring in program areas in which
2 expertise is needed by the state's Hispanic Americans.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** The board may award scholarships to eligible
4 students from moneys earned from the endowment fund created in section
5 7 of this act, or from funds appropriated to the board for this
6 purpose, or from any private donations, or from any other funds given
7 to the board for this program. For an undergraduate student, the
8 amount of the scholarship shall not exceed the student's demonstrated
9 financial need. For a graduate student, the amount of the scholarship
10 shall not exceed the student's demonstrated need or the stipend of a
11 teaching assistant, including tuition, at the University of Washington,
12 whichever is higher. In calculating a student's need, the board shall
13 consider the student's costs for tuition, fees, books, supplies,
14 transportation, room, board, personal expenses, and child care. The
15 student's scholarship awarded under this chapter shall not exceed the
16 amount received by a student attending a state research university. A
17 student is eligible to receive a scholarship for a maximum of five
18 years. However, the length of the scholarship shall be determined at
19 the discretion of the board.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** The Hispanic American endowed scholarship
21 trust fund is established. The trust fund shall be administered by the
22 state treasurer. Funds appropriated by the legislature for the trust
23 fund shall be deposited into the fund. All moneys deposited in the
24 fund shall be invested by the state treasurer. Notwithstanding RCW
25 43.84.092, all earnings of investments of balances of the trust fund
26 shall be credited to the fund. At the request of the board, and when
27 conditions set forth in section 8 of this act are met, the treasurer
28 shall transfer state matching moneys and any earned interest from the
29 trust fund to the Hispanic American scholarship endowment fund. No
30 appropriation is required for expenditures from the trust fund.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** The Hispanic American scholarship endowment
32 fund is established. The endowment fund shall be administered by the
33 state treasurer. Moneys received from the board, private donations,
34 state matching moneys and any earned interest, and funds received from
35 any other source may be deposited into the endowment fund. All moneys
36 deposited in the endowment fund shall be invested by the state

1 treasurer. Notwithstanding RCW 43.84.092, all earnings of investments
2 of balances of the endowment fund shall be credited to the endowment
3 fund. At the request of the board, the treasurer shall release
4 earnings from the endowment fund to the board for scholarships. No
5 appropriation is required for expenditures from the endowment fund.

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

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** The board may request that the treasurer
10 deposit fifty thousand dollars of state matching funds and any earned
11 interest into the Hispanic American scholarship endowment fund when the
12 board can match the state funds with an equal amount of private cash
13 donations. Private cash donations means moneys from nonstate sources
14 that include, but are not limited to, federal moneys, and assessments
15 by commodity commissions authorized to conduct research activities,
16 including but not limited to research studies authorized under RCW
17 15.66.030 and 15.65.040.

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

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