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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1661**

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**State of Washington**

**56th Legislature**

**1999 Regular Session**

**By** House Representative Higher Education (originally sponsored by Representatives Edmonds, Carlson, Kenney, Kagi, Esser, Wood, Lantz and Ogden)

Read first time 02/18/1999.

1 AN ACT Relating to the Washington scholars program; amending RCW  
2 28A.600.150 and 28B.80.245; and creating a new section.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that approximately  
5 thirty-five percent of the recipients of the Washington scholars award  
6 under RCW 28A.600.100 through 28A.600.150 choose to enroll in an out-  
7 of-state college and therefore do not use the grants that would have  
8 been available to them under RCW 28B.80.245 had they chosen to attend  
9 a college or university in the state of Washington. It is the intent  
10 of the legislature to require high school seniors who are announced as  
11 recipients of the Washington scholars award to demonstrate in a timely  
12 manner that they will be using any grants they may receive with their  
13 awards to enroll in a college or university in Washington state during  
14 the fall term of the same year in which they receive the award. Any  
15 grants not used by initial recipients should be awarded to alternate  
16 recipients who must also demonstrate in a timely manner that they will  
17 be using their grants to enroll in a Washington college or university  
18 in Washington state during the fall term.

1       **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.600.150 and 1985 c 370 s 35 are each amended to  
2 read as follows:

3       (~~Washington scholars annually shall be selected from among the~~  
4 ~~students so identified.~~) Each year, three Washington scholars and  
5 three Washington scholars-alternates shall be selected from the  
6 students nominated under RCW 28A.600.140. The higher education  
7 coordinating board shall notify the students so designated, their high  
8 school principals, the legislators of their respective districts, and  
9 the governor when final selections have been made.

10       The board, in conjunction with the governor's office, shall prepare  
11 appropriate certificates to be presented to the Washington scholars  
12 (~~recipients~~) and the Washington scholars-alternates. An awards  
13 ceremony at an appropriate time and place shall be planned by the board  
14 in cooperation with the Washington association of secondary school  
15 principals, and with the approval of the governor.

16       **Sec. 3.** RCW 28B.80.245 and 1995 1st sp.s. c 5 s 3 are each amended  
17 to read as follows:

18       (1) Recipients of the Washington scholars award or the Washington  
19 scholars-alternate award under RCW 28A.600.100 through 28A.600.150 who  
20 choose to attend an independent college or university in this state, as  
21 defined in subsection (4) of this section, and recipients of the award  
22 named after June 30, 1994, who choose to attend a public college or  
23 university in the state may receive grants under this section if moneys  
24 are available. The higher education coordinating board shall  
25 distribute grants to eligible students under this section from moneys  
26 appropriated for this purpose. The individual grants shall not exceed,  
27 on a yearly basis, the yearly, full-time, resident, undergraduate  
28 tuition and service and activities fees in effect at the state-funded  
29 research universities. Grants to recipients attending an independent  
30 institution shall be contingent upon the institution matching on at  
31 least a dollar-for-dollar basis, either with actual money or by a  
32 waiver of fees, the amount of the grant received by the student from  
33 the state. The higher education coordinating board shall establish  
34 procedures, by rule, to disburse the awards as direct grants to the  
35 students.

36       (2) (~~To qualify for the grant, recipients shall enter the in-state~~  
37 ~~college or university within three years of high school graduation~~  
38 ~~and~~) The higher education coordinating board shall establish rules

1 that provide for the annual awarding of grants, if moneys are  
2 available, to three Washington scholars per legislative district; and,  
3 if not used by an original recipient, to Washington scholars-alternates  
4 from the same legislative district.

5 Beginning with scholars selected in the year 2000, if the  
6 recipients of grants fail to demonstrate in a timely manner that they  
7 will enroll in a Washington institution of higher education in the fall  
8 term of the academic year following the award of the grant or are  
9 deemed by the higher education coordinating board to have withdrawn  
10 from college during the first academic year following the award, then  
11 the grant shall be considered relinquished. The higher education  
12 coordinating board may then award any remaining grant amounts to  
13 Washington scholars-alternates from the same legislative district if  
14 the grants are awarded within one calendar year of the recipient being  
15 named a Washington scholars-alternate. Washington scholars-alternates  
16 named as recipients of the grant must also demonstrate in a timely  
17 manner that they will enroll in a Washington institution of higher  
18 education during the next available term, as determined by the higher  
19 education coordinating board. The board may accept appeals and grant  
20 waivers to the enrollment requirements of this section based on  
21 exceptional mitigating circumstances of individual grant recipients.

22 To maintain eligibility for the grants, recipients must maintain a  
23 minimum grade point average at the college or university equivalent to  
24 3.30. Students shall be eligible to receive a maximum of twelve  
25 quarters or eight semesters of grants for undergraduate study and may  
26 transfer among in-state public and independent colleges and  
27 universities during that period and continue to receive the grant as  
28 provided under RCW 28B.80.246. If the student's cumulative grade point  
29 average falls below 3.30 during the first three quarters or two  
30 semesters, that student may petition the higher education coordinating  
31 board which shall have the authority to establish a probationary period  
32 until such time as the student's grade point average meets required  
33 standards.

34 (3) No grant shall be awarded to any student who is pursuing a  
35 degree in theology.

36 (4) As used in this section, "independent college or university"  
37 means a private, nonprofit educational institution, the main campus of  
38 which is permanently situated in the state, open to residents of the  
39 state, providing programs of education beyond the high school level

1 leading at least to the baccalaureate degree, and accredited by the  
2 northwest association of schools and colleges as of June 9, 1988, and  
3 other institutions as may be developed that are approved by the higher  
4 education coordinating board as meeting equivalent standards as those  
5 institutions accredited under this section.

6 (5) As used in this section, "public college or university" means  
7 an institution of higher education as defined in RCW 28B.10.016.

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