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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 4427

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State of Washington

56th Legislature

2000 Regular Session

By Representatives Kenney, Carlson, Stensen, Regala, Rockefeller, Dunn and Lantz; by request of Higher Education Coordinating Board

Read first time 01/25/2000. Referred to Committee on Higher Education.

1 WHEREAS, Chapter 370, Laws of 1985, created the Washington Higher  
2 Education Coordinating Board to plan, coordinate, and provide policy  
3 analysis for higher education and to represent the broad public  
4 interest above the interests of individual colleges and universities;  
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Section 4, chapter 370, Laws of 1985, requires the board  
7 to prepare and update a master plan for higher education and requires  
8 the Legislature, by concurrent resolution, to "approve or recommend  
9 changes" to the master plan and its subsequent updates; and

10 WHEREAS, The provisions of the master plan that are approved by the  
11 Legislature become state higher education policy unless legislation is  
12 subsequently enacted to revise those policies; and

13 WHEREAS, The Washington Higher Education Coordinating Board  
14 submitted the initial master plan to the Legislature in December 1987,  
15 and submitted updates to the plan in December 1992, January 1996, and  
16 January 2000; and

17 WHEREAS, During the process used to develop the 2000 master plan,  
18 the board consulted with students and families, educators, business,  
19 labor, and civic organizations representing a cross-section of  
20 Washington citizens; and

1       WHEREAS, The board learned that the need and expectation for higher  
2 education among Washington citizens will continue to grow through the  
3 next decade, because of population increases as well as the demands of  
4 the state's increasingly technology-based economy; and

5       WHEREAS, The board reported that Washington's public and private  
6 colleges and universities and career schools would need to provide  
7 opportunities for at least seventy thousand additional full-time  
8 students by the year 2010, including at least fifty-two thousand five  
9 hundred additional full-time enrollments in the public colleges and  
10 universities; and

11       WHEREAS, The board has spelled out its commitment to continuing to  
12 expand enrollment opportunities for Washington students, to keep public  
13 higher education affordable for students and families, and to provide  
14 financial assistance to those who cannot otherwise afford to go to  
15 college; and

16       WHEREAS, The board identified five specific goals for the state to  
17 address higher education needs in the next ten years:

18       (1) Making student learning the yardstick by which institutional  
19 accountability, effectiveness, and deficiency is measured;

20       (2) Linking students' participation in higher education to their  
21 achievement in the K-12 grades;

22       (3) Providing the information citizens need to make the best use of  
23 the learning pathways available to them;

24       (4) Enhancing higher education opportunity through greater use of  
25 e-learning technologies and by increasingly efficient use of public  
26 facilities; and

27       (5) Helping colleges and universities meet student needs and  
28 compete in an increasingly competitive and complex education  
29 marketplace; and

30       WHEREAS, The board challenged itself, students, and families, the  
31 public and private institutions, the private sector, and the state to  
32 each accept its individual responsibilities and to collaborate in the  
33 development of solutions; and

34       WHEREAS, The board described an implementation plan to guide the  
35 state's response to the needs of higher education and to estimate the  
36 costs of the strategies;

37       NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the House of Representatives of  
38 the State of Washington, the Senate concurring, That the Washington  
39 Higher Education Coordinating Board be commended for its dedication and

1 commitment to the State of Washington in producing the 2000 update of  
2 the master plan for higher education titled "The 21st Century Learner";  
3 and

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Legislature thank the board for  
5 describing many of the challenges facing the state in its attempts to  
6 provide the postsecondary education and training our citizens need to  
7 fulfill their personal goals and participate fully in the world of the  
8 twenty-first century; and

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Legislature approve the  
10 recommendations of the 2000 update of the master plan:

11 (1) The goal that, by the year 2010, Washington's system of  
12 postsecondary education needs to provide opportunities for at least  
13 seventy thousand additional full-time equivalent students to enroll in  
14 high-quality education and training programs;

15 (2) That solutions to the challenge may be found in strategies that  
16 (a) make student learning the yardstick by which institutional  
17 accountability, effectiveness, and efficiency is measured; and (b) link  
18 students' participation in higher education to their achievement in the  
19 K-12 grades;

20 (3) Provide the information citizens need to make the best use of  
21 the learning pathways available to them;

22 (4) Expand the use of e-learning technologies and use public  
23 facilities to the fullest extent possible; and

24 (5) Help colleges and universities meet student needs and compete  
25 in an increasingly competitive and complex education marketplace; and

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the board examine alternatives to  
27 address the operating and capital budget needs that are identified in  
28 the 2000 update of the master plan; and

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the board proceed with the  
30 implementation of the 2000 update of the master plan as described in  
31 "The 21st Century Learner" and report to the 2001 Legislature on  
32 progress toward implementing its strategies.

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