
SECOND SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2534

State of Washington

57th Legislature

2002 Regular Session

By House Committee on Appropriations (originally sponsored by Representatives Kenney, Cox, Kagi, Chase, Tokuda, Jarrett, Conway, Morell, Ogden, Edwards, Kessler, Haigh, Voloria, McIntire, Schual-Berke, Wood, Santos, McDermott and Linville)

Read first time 02/12/2002. Referred to Committee on .

1 AN ACT Relating to gaining independence for students by
2 establishing an educational assistance grant program for students with
3 dependents; adding a new section to chapter 74.04 RCW; and adding a new
4 chapter to Title 28B RCW.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** FINDING--INTENT. The legislature finds that
7 financially needy students, especially those with dependents, are
8 finding it increasingly difficult to stay in school due to the high
9 costs of caring for their dependent children.

10 The legislature intends to establish an educational assistance
11 grant program, funded through gifts, grants, or endowments from private
12 sources, for students with dependents who have additional financial
13 needs due to the care they provide for their dependents eighteen years
14 of age or younger.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** PROGRAM CREATED. The educational assistance
16 grant program for students with dependents is hereby created, subject
17 to the availability of receipts of gifts, grants, or endowments from
18 private sources. The program is created to serve financially needy

1 students with dependents eighteen years of age or younger, by assisting
2 them directly through a grant program to pursue a degree or certificate
3 at public or private institutions of higher education, as defined in
4 RCW 28B.10.802, that participate in the state need grant program.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** DEFINITION--ELIGIBILITY. To be eligible for
6 the educational assistance grant program for students with dependents,
7 applicants shall: (1) Be residents of the state of Washington; (2) be
8 needy students as defined in RCW 28B.10.802(3); (3) be eligible to
9 participate in the state need grant program as set forth under RCW
10 28B.10.810; and (4) have dependents eighteen years of age or younger
11 who are under their care.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** ACCOUNT CREATION. (1) The students with
13 dependents grant account is created in the custody of the state
14 treasurer. All receipts from the program shall be deposited into the
15 account. Only the higher education coordinating board, or its
16 designee, may authorize expenditures from the account. The account is
17 subject to allotment procedures under chapter 43.88 RCW, but no
18 appropriation is required for expenditures.

19 (2) The board may solicit and receive gifts, grants, or endowments
20 from private sources that are made from time to time, in trust or
21 otherwise, for the use and benefit of the purposes of the educational
22 assistance grant program. The executive director, or the executive
23 director's designee, may spend gifts, grants, or endowments or income
24 from the private sources according to their terms unless the receipt of
25 the gifts, grants, or endowments violates RCW 42.17.710.

26 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** ADMINISTRATION OF PROGRAM--PAYMENTS TO
27 PARTICIPANTS. The higher education coordinating board shall develop
28 and administer the educational assistance grant program for students
29 with dependents. The higher education coordinating board shall adopt
30 necessary rules and guidelines and develop criteria and procedures to
31 identify eligible participants in the program.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** USE OF GRANTS. The educational assistance
33 grant program for students with dependents grants may be used by
34 eligible participants to attend any public or private college or
35 university in the state of Washington as defined in RCW 28B.10.802.

1 The participant is not eligible for a grant if the grant will be used
2 to pursue a degree in theology. Each participating student may receive
3 an amount to be determined by the higher education coordinating board,
4 with a minimum amount of one thousand dollars per academic year, not to
5 exceed the student's documented financial need for the course of study
6 as determined by the institution.

7 Educational assistance grants for students with dependents are not
8 intended to supplant any grant scholarship or tax program related to
9 postsecondary education. If the higher education coordinating board
10 finds that the educational assistance grants for students with
11 dependents supplant or reduce any grant, scholarship, or tax program
12 for categories of students, then the higher education coordinating
13 board shall adjust the financial eligibility criteria or the amount of
14 the grant to the level necessary to avoid supplanting.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** This chapter may be known and cited as the
16 gaining independence for students with dependents program.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** A new section is added to chapter 74.04 RCW
18 to read as follows:

19 For purposes of RCW 74.04.005 (10) and (11), "resource" and
20 "income" do not include educational assistance awarded under the
21 gaining independence for students with dependents program as defined in
22 this act for recipients of temporary assistance for needy families.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** Captions used in this act are not any part
24 of the law.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 10.** Sections 1 through 7 and 9 of this act
26 constitute a new chapter in Title 28B RCW.

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