

5404-S

Sponsor(s): Senate Committee on Higher Education (originally sponsored by Senators Kohl-Welles, Eide, McAuliffe, Shin, Patterson, Regala, Costa, Finkbeiner, Haugen and Rasmussen; by request of Governor Locke)

Brief Description: Creating the Washington promise scholarship.

SB 5404-S - DIGEST

(DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)

Declares an intent to strengthen the link between postsecondary education and K-12 education by creating the Washington promise scholarship program for academically successful high school graduates from low and middle-income families.

Finds that, increasingly, an individual's economic viability is contingent on postsecondary educational opportunities, yet the state's full financial obligation is eliminated after the twelfth grade. Students who work hard in kindergarten through twelfth grade and successfully complete high school with high academic marks may not have the financial ability to attend college because they cannot obtain financial aid or the financial aid is insufficient.