

SHB 1909 - S COMM AMD
By Committee on Higher Education

ADOPTED 04/11/2003

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the focus of
4 transfer between institutions of higher education has been on students'
5 accumulation of credits, where courses necessary for entry to each
6 successive level of higher education have been individually identified
7 and vary by institution and academic discipline. It is the
8 legislature's intent to begin a process that will change the focus of
9 transfer to defining and recognizing student competencies.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The higher education coordinating board,
11 in consultation with the state board for community and technical
12 colleges and the council of presidents, shall recruit and select
13 institutions of higher education to participate in a pilot project to
14 define transfer standards in selected academic disciplines on the basis
15 of student competencies. Participants shall include one public four-
16 year institution of higher education, two or more community or
17 technical colleges that regularly transfer a substantial number of
18 students to that four-year institution, and one or more private career
19 colleges that prepare students in the academic disciplines selected
20 under the pilot project. Such colleges shall be accredited and
21 licensed under chapter 28C.10 RCW.

22 (2) The pilot project participants shall identify several academic
23 disciplines to form the basis of the project and develop a work plan,
24 timelines, and expected products for the project, which shall be
25 presented by the higher education coordinating board in a preliminary
26 report to the higher education committees of the legislature by
27 December 1, 2004.

28 (3) Under the pilot project, participants shall develop standards,
29 definitions, and procedures for quality assurance for a transfer system

1 based on student competencies. It is the legislature's intent that
2 under such a system, four-year institutions of higher education, in
3 collaboration with two-year institutions of higher education, define
4 the knowledge, skills, and abilities students should possess in order
5 to enter an upper division program in a particular academic discipline.
6 The two and four-year institutions providing lower division preparation
7 for such an upper division program are responsible for certifying that
8 a student meets the expected standards, but have flexibility to
9 determine how to assess whether the student has obtained the necessary
10 knowledge, skills, and abilities. Such assessments need not be based
11 on completion of particular courses or accumulation of credits.

12 (4) The pilot project participants may request assistance in their
13 work from the higher education coordinating board, the western
14 interstate commission on higher education, the state board for
15 community and technical colleges, or the council of presidents. The
16 pilot project participants and the higher education coordinating board
17 shall structure the work of the project in such a way that development
18 costs for the project are absorbed within existing institution and
19 agency budgets.

20 (5) In collaboration with the higher education coordinating board,
21 the pilot project participants shall report to the higher education
22 committees of the legislature by December 1, 2005, on the progress and
23 status of the pilot project. The report shall identify any barriers
24 encountered by the project and make recommendations for next steps in
25 developing a competency-based transfer system for higher education.

26 (6) This section expires June 30, 2006."

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27 On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "education;" strike the
28 remainder of the title and insert "creating new sections; and providing
29 an expiration date."

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