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SECOND ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2151

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State of Washington

58th Legislature

2003 Regular Session

By House Committee on Capital Budget (originally sponsored by Representatives Alexander, Dunshee, Sommers, Cox and Sehlin)

READ FIRST TIME 03/10/03.

1 AN ACT Relating to prioritizing proposed capital projects of higher  
2 education institutions; adding a new section to chapter 28B.80 RCW; and  
3 creating a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that a capital  
6 investment in higher education facilities is needed over the next  
7 several biennia to adequately preserve, modernize, and expand the  
8 capacity of the state's public two-year and four-year colleges and  
9 universities. This investment is needed to responsibly preserve and  
10 restore existing facilities and to provide additional space for new  
11 students. Further, the legislature finds that capital appropriations  
12 will need to respond to each of these areas of need in a planned,  
13 balanced, and prioritized manner so that access to a quality system of  
14 higher education is ensured.

15 (2) It is the intent of the legislature that a methodology be  
16 developed that will guide capital appropriation decisions by rating and  
17 individually ranking, in sequential, priority order, all major capital  
18 projects proposed by the two-year and four-year public universities and  
19 colleges. Further, it is the intent of the legislature that this

1 rating, ranking, and prioritization of capital needs will reflect the  
2 state's higher education policies and goals including the comprehensive  
3 master plan for higher education as submitted by the higher education  
4 coordinating board and as adopted by the legislature.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.80 RCW  
6 to read as follows:

7 (1) Beginning with the 2005-2007 biennial capital budget submittal,  
8 the public four-year institutions, in consultation with the council of  
9 presidents and the higher education coordinating board, shall prepare  
10 a single prioritized individual ranking of the individual projects  
11 proposed by the four-year institutions as provided in subsection (2) of  
12 this section. The public four-year institutions may aggregate minor  
13 works project requests into priority categories without separately  
14 ranking each minor project, provided that these aggregated minor works  
15 requests are ranked within the overall list. For repairs and  
16 improvements to existing facilities and systems, the rating and ranking  
17 of individual projects must be based on criteria or factors that  
18 include, but are not limited to, the age and condition of buildings or  
19 systems, the programmatic suitability of the building or system, and  
20 the activity/occupancy level supported by the building or system. For  
21 projects creating new space or capacity, the ratings and rankings of  
22 projects must be based upon criteria or factors that include, but are  
23 not limited to, measuring existing capacity and progress toward meeting  
24 increased space utilization levels as determined by the higher  
25 education coordinating board.

26 (2) The single prioritized four-year project list shall be approved  
27 by the governing boards of each public four-year institution and shall  
28 be submitted to the office of financial management and the higher  
29 education coordinating board concurrent with the institution's  
30 submittal of their biennial capital budget requests.

31 (3)(a) The higher education coordinating board, in consultation  
32 with the office of financial management and the joint legislative audit  
33 and review committee, shall develop common definitions that public  
34 four-year institutions and the state board for community and technical  
35 colleges shall use in developing their project lists under this  
36 section.

1 (b) As part of its duties under RCW 28B.80.330(4), the higher  
2 education coordinating board shall, as part of its biennial budget  
3 guidelines, disseminate, by December 1st of each odd-numbered year, the  
4 criteria framework, including general definitions, categories, and  
5 rating system, to be used by the public four-year institutions in the  
6 development of the prioritized four-year project list. The criteria  
7 framework shall specify the general priority order of project types  
8 based on criteria determined by the board, in consultation with the  
9 public four-year institutions.

10 (c) Under RCW 28B.80.330(4), the public four-year institutions  
11 shall submit a preliminary prioritized four-year project list to the  
12 higher education coordinating board by August 1st of each even-numbered  
13 year.

14 (d) The state board for community and technical colleges shall, as  
15 part of its biennial capital budget request, submit a single  
16 prioritized ranking of the individual projects proposed for the  
17 community and technical colleges. The state board for community and  
18 technical colleges shall submit an outline of the prioritized community  
19 and technical college project list to the higher education coordinating  
20 board under RCW 28B.80.330(4) by August 1st of each even-numbered year.

21 (4) The higher education coordinating board, in consultation with  
22 the public four-year institutions, shall resolve any disputes or  
23 disagreements arising among the four-year institutions concerning the  
24 ranking of particular projects. Further, should one or more governing  
25 boards of the public four-year institutions fail to approve the  
26 prioritized four-year project list as required in this section, or  
27 should a prioritized project list not be submitted by the public four-  
28 year institutions concurrent with the submittal of their respective  
29 biennial capital budget requests as provided in subsection (2) of this  
30 section, the higher education coordinating board shall prepare the  
31 prioritized four-year institution project list itself.

32 (5) In developing any rating and ranking of capital projects  
33 proposed by the two-year and four-year public universities and  
34 colleges, the board:

35 (a) Shall be provided with available information by the public two-  
36 year and four-year institutions as deemed necessary by the board;

37 (b) May utilize independent services to verify, sample, or evaluate

1 information provided to the board by the two-year and four-year  
2 institutions; and

3 (c) Shall have full access to all data maintained by the office of  
4 financial management and the joint legislative audit and review  
5 committee concerning the condition of higher education facilities.

6 (6) Beginning with the 2005-2007 biennial capital budget submittal,  
7 the higher education coordinating board shall, in consultation with the  
8 state board for community and technical colleges and four-year colleges  
9 and universities, submit its capital budget recommendations and the  
10 separate two-year and four-year prioritized project lists.

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