
SENATE BILL 5304

State of Washington 58th Legislature 2003 Regular Session

By Senators Kohl-Welles, Carlson, Brown, Horn, Rossi, B. Sheldon, Mulliken, Schmidt, Johnson, Shin and Franklin

Read first time 01/22/2003. Referred to Committee on Higher Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to higher education in high-demand fields and
2 programs; and adding a new section to chapter 28B.80 RCW.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.80 RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 (1) A program to contract for undergraduate placements in high-
7 demand fields and programs, as evidenced by current limited access, is
8 created. The higher education coordinating board shall administer the
9 program, subject to appropriation.

10 (2) The board may accept applications for an enrollment contract
11 from an in-state or border-state, private nonprofit institution but
12 only where such entities have agreed to partner with a public,
13 Washington state college or university to deliver the educational
14 program in high demand. Where a successful bid comes from such
15 partnerships, in all cases the Washington state college or university
16 must be the fiscal agent, grant-recipient-of-record, and an active
17 partner in the instruction of participating Washington students.

18 (3) With respect to the review and selection among competing
19 proposals for these new enrollments, the board shall consider the

1 present and near-term outlook for in-state employment of graduating
2 students for whom it will contract to expand access opportunities. The
3 board or its designees shall give greater weight to proposals from
4 applicants that (a) create opportunities for underrepresented students
5 in the field of study, (b) promote economic growth in depressed regions
6 of the state, (c) address health and education professional shortages,
7 or (d) spread the benefit of the state's high-technology economy
8 geographically. The greatest weight among otherwise equal proposals
9 shall be given to proposals that include an articulation agreement to
10 ease the transfer of applicable, lower division credit earned by
11 participating Washington students.

12 (4) Participating institutions shall cooperate with the board to
13 collect the data necessary to report to the governor and the
14 legislature on the impact of the program in this section, particularly
15 the degree of improved access to high-demand fields and programs for
16 students and successful job placements for graduates. The board shall
17 profile enrollment contracts let to date and review impacts as part of
18 the reports. Reports shall be made by December 1st of even-numbered
19 years.

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