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HOUSE BILL 2046

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State of Washington                      59th Legislature                      2005 Regular Session

By Representatives Hunter, Orcutt, Linville, Kilmer, Campbell,  
Kristiansen, Chase, Morrell, Dickerson, Haigh and Darneille

Read first time 02/15/2005. Referred to Committee on Higher Education.

1            AN ACT Relating to tuition waivers for dependents of national guard  
2 members ordered to active duty to serve overseas in a war or conflict;  
3 amending RCW 28B.15.910; and adding a new section to chapter 28B.15  
4 RCW.

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

6            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.15 RCW  
7 to read as follows:

8            (1) The legislature finds that when members of the Washington  
9 national guard are called into overseas active duty, their absence  
10 poses a hardship on their families in many ways. Frequently their  
11 compensation is reduced from its normal levels, making financial  
12 obligations more difficult to meet. Therefore, the legislature intends  
13 to support national guard members by waiving their children's tuition  
14 charges while they are on overseas active duty.

15            (2) Subject to the limitations of RCW 28B.15.910, the governing  
16 boards of the state universities, the regional universities, The  
17 Evergreen State College, and the community colleges may waive all or a  
18 portion of tuition and fees for students who:

1 (a) Are dependent children of members of the Washington national  
2 guard who have been ordered into federal active military service for a  
3 period exceeding thirty days to serve in a war or conflict fought on  
4 foreign soil; and

5 (b) Qualify as a resident student under RCW 28B.15.012, except RCW  
6 28B.15.012(2)(g).

7 (3) If a governing board exercises the authority under this  
8 section, the board shall also adopt policies that provide a full or  
9 partial refund of tuition already paid for a quarter or semester during  
10 which a student becomes eligible for the waiver under this section.

11 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28B.15.910 and 2004 c 275 s 51 are each amended to  
12 read as follows:

13 (1) For the purpose of providing state general fund support to  
14 public institutions of higher education, except for revenue waived  
15 under programs listed in subsections (3) and (4) of this section, and  
16 unless otherwise expressly provided in the omnibus state appropriations  
17 act, the total amount of operating fees revenue waived, exempted, or  
18 reduced by a state university, a regional university, The Evergreen  
19 State College, or the community colleges as a whole, shall not exceed  
20 the percentage of total gross authorized operating fees revenue in this  
21 subsection. As used in this section, "gross authorized operating fees  
22 revenue" means the estimated gross operating fees revenue as estimated  
23 under RCW 82.33.020 or as revised by the office of financial  
24 management, before granting any waivers. This limitation applies to  
25 all tuition waiver programs established before or after July 1, 1992.

26 (a) University of Washington	21 percent
27 (b) Washington State University	20 percent
28 (c) Eastern Washington University	11 percent
29 (d) Central Washington University	8 percent
30 (e) Western Washington University	10 percent
31 (f) The Evergreen State College	6 percent
32 (g) Community colleges as a whole	35 percent

33 (2) The limitations in subsection (1) of this section apply to  
34 waivers, exemptions, or reductions in operating fees contained in the  
35 following:

36 (a) RCW 28B.10.265;

37 (b) RCW 28B.15.014;

- 1 (c) RCW 28B.15.100;
- 2 (d) RCW 28B.15.225;
- 3 (e) RCW 28B.15.380;
- 4 (f) RCW 28B.15.520;
- 5 (g) RCW 28B.15.526;
- 6 (h) RCW 28B.15.527;
- 7 (i) RCW 28B.15.543;
- 8 (j) RCW 28B.15.545;
- 9 (k) RCW 28B.15.555;
- 10 (l) RCW 28B.15.556;
- 11 (m) RCW 28B.15.615;
- 12 (n) RCW 28B.15.620;
- 13 (o) RCW 28B.15.628;
- 14 (p) RCW 28B.15.730;
- 15 (q) RCW 28B.15.740;
- 16 (r) RCW 28B.15.750;
- 17 (s) RCW 28B.15.756;
- 18 (t) RCW 28B.50.259;
- 19 (u) RCW 28B.70.050; and

20 (v) (~~During the 1997-99 fiscal biennium, the western interstate~~  
21 ~~commission for higher education undergraduate exchange program for~~  
22 ~~students attending Eastern Washington University~~) Section 1 of this  
23 act.

24 (3) The limitations in subsection (1) of this section do not apply  
25 to waivers, exemptions, or reductions in services and activities fees  
26 contained in the following:

- 27 (a) RCW 28B.15.522;
- 28 (b) RCW 28B.15.540; and
- 29 (c) RCW 28B.15.558.

30 (4) The total amount of operating fees revenue waived, exempted, or  
31 reduced by institutions of higher education participating in the  
32 western interstate commission for higher education western  
33 undergraduate exchange program under RCW 28B.15.544 shall not exceed  
34 the percentage of total gross authorized operating fees revenue in this  
35 subsection.

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| 36 (a) Washington State University   | 1 percent |
| 37 (b) Eastern Washington University | 3 percent |

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