

---

SENATE BILL 5411

---

State of Washington

59th Legislature

2005 Regular Session

By Senators Pridemore, Kohl-Welles, Benton, Schmidt, McAuliffe, Zarelli, Rasmussen, Thibaudeau, Doumit, Shin, Regala, Keiser, Prentice, Fairley, Jacobsen and Pflug

Read first time 01/24/2005. Referred to Committee on Early Learning, K-12 & Higher Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to authorizing branch campuses to offer lower-  
2 division courses; amending RCW 28B.45.014, 28B.45.020, 28B.45.030, and  
3 28B.45.040; and creating a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the University of  
6 Washington Bothell, University of Washington Tacoma, Washington State  
7 University Tri-Cities, and Washington State University Vancouver have  
8 each conducted a thorough review of the campus mission and model of  
9 educational services and made recommendations to the legislature for  
10 the future evolution of the campus. As a result of these reviews, it  
11 is the legislature's intent to authorize each campus to expand its  
12 educational offerings to include lower-division courses.

13 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28B.45.014 and 2004 c 57 s 2 are each amended to read  
14 as follows:

15 (1) The primary mission of the higher education branch campuses  
16 created under this chapter remains to expand access to baccalaureate  
17 and master's level graduate education in underserved urban areas of the

1 state, both in collaboration with community and technical colleges for  
2 transfer students and by offering baccalaureate programs that include  
3 lower-division courses.

4 (2) Branch campuses shall collaborate with the community and  
5 technical colleges in their region to develop articulation agreements,  
6 dual admissions policies, and other partnerships to ensure that branch  
7 campuses serve as innovative models of a two plus two educational  
8 system. Other possibilities for collaboration include but are not  
9 limited to joint development of curricula and degree programs,  
10 colocation of instruction, and arrangements to share faculty.

11 (3) In communities where a private postsecondary institution is  
12 located, representatives of the private institution may be invited to  
13 participate in the conversation about meeting the baccalaureate and  
14 master's level graduate needs in underserved urban areas of the state.

15 (4) However, the legislature recognizes there are alternative  
16 models for achieving this primary mission. Some campuses may have  
17 additional missions in response to regional needs and demands. At  
18 selected branch campuses, an innovative combination of instruction and  
19 research targeted to support regional economic development may be  
20 appropriate to meet the region's needs for both access and economic  
21 viability. Other campuses should focus on becoming models of a two  
22 plus two educational system through continuous improvement of  
23 partnerships and agreements with community and technical colleges.  
24 Still other campuses may be best suited to transition to a four-year  
25 comprehensive university or be removed from designation as a branch  
26 campus entirely.

27 (5) It is the legislature's intent that each branch campus be  
28 funded commensurate with its unique mission, the degree programs  
29 offered, and the institutional combination of instruction and research,  
30 but at a level less than a research university.

31 (6) In consultation with the higher education coordinating board,  
32 a branch campus may propose legislation to authorize practice-oriented  
33 or professional doctoral programs if: (a) Unique research facilities  
34 and equipment are located near the campus; or (b) the campus can  
35 clearly demonstrate student and employer demand in the region that is  
36 linked to regional economic development.

37 (7) It is not the legislature's intent to have each campus chart  
38 its own future path without legislative guidance. Instead, the

1 legislature intends to consider carefully the mission and model of  
2 education that best suits each campus and best meets the needs of  
3 students, the community, and the region.

4 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28B.45.020 and 1994 c 217 s 3 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6 The University of Washington is responsible for ensuring the  
7 expansion of (~~upper-division~~) baccalaureate and graduate educational  
8 programs in the central Puget Sound area under rules or guidelines  
9 adopted by the higher education coordinating board. The University of  
10 Washington shall meet that responsibility through the operation of at  
11 least two branch campuses. One branch campus shall be located in the  
12 Tacoma area. Another branch campus shall be collocated with Cascadia  
13 Community College in the Bothell-Woodinville area.

14 **Sec. 4.** RCW 28B.45.030 and 1989 1st ex.s. c 7 s 4 are each amended  
15 to read as follows:

16 Washington State University is responsible for providing (~~upper-~~  
17 ~~division~~) baccalaureate and graduate level higher education programs  
18 to the citizens of the Tri-Cities area, under rules or guidelines  
19 adopted by the higher education coordinating board. Washington State  
20 University shall meet that responsibility through the operation of a  
21 branch campus in the Tri-Cities area. The branch campus shall replace  
22 and supersede the Tri-Cities university center. All land, facilities,  
23 equipment, and personnel of the Tri-Cities university center shall be  
24 transferred from the University of Washington to Washington State  
25 University.

26 **Sec. 5.** RCW 28B.45.040 and 1989 1st ex.s. c 7 s 5 are each amended  
27 to read as follows:

28 Washington State University is responsible for providing (~~upper-~~  
29 ~~division~~) baccalaureate and graduate level higher education programs  
30 to the citizens of the southwest Washington area, under rules or  
31 guidelines adopted by the higher education coordinating board.  
32 Washington State University shall meet that responsibility through the  
33 operation of a branch campus in the southwest Washington area.

--- END ---