
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5971

State of Washington

59th Legislature

2005 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Early Learning, K-12 & Higher Education (originally sponsored by Senators McAuliffe, Pridemore, Schmidt, Eide, Shin, Rockefeller, Berkey, Weinstein, Kohl-Welles, Delvin and Rasmussen)

READ FIRST TIME 03/02/05.

1 AN ACT Relating to a statewide student association; and adding a
2 new section to chapter 28B.76 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.76 RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 (1) The board shall recognize one nonprofit statewide student
7 association for the state's public four-year institutions. This
8 recognition shall include the annual review and approval of the bylaws
9 of the association.

10 (2) Each recognized campus student government association shall be
11 affiliated with the statewide student association. All students
12 enrolled on those campuses with recognized student government
13 organizations shall be members of the statewide student association,
14 unless they voluntarily choose not to be.

15 (3)(a) A statewide student association fee may be assessed upon all
16 students of the state's four-year institutions, subject to the approval
17 of the board.

18 (b) Students who voluntarily choose not to be members of the
19 statewide student association may not be assessed the fee.

1 (c) The assessment of the fee shall be subject to annual review and
2 approval by the board. The amount of the fee may not exceed one-
3 quarter of one percent of resident undergraduate tuition.

4 (d) The fee shall be collected by the four-year institutions and
5 directly transferred at least semiannually to the statewide student
6 association. A percentage of fees collected may be retained by the
7 institutions to cover administrative costs, not to exceed five percent.

8 (4) The statewide student association shall submit an annual report
9 to the board and to the relevant committees of the legislature by
10 December 31st of each year. The report shall also be furnished to each
11 affiliated student government organization and upon request to any
12 member of the association. The report shall include a list of current
13 officers and employees, a legislative agenda, and a current budget.
14 The report shall also include the results of an annual audit conducted
15 by a certified public accountant or accounting firm. The report shall
16 be informational in nature and is not subject to approval.

17 (5) The statewide student association shall operate at the
18 direction of a board of directors. Officers of the board shall
19 represent the diversity of the four-year institutions, including
20 underrepresented groups and shall be elected from the membership of the
21 association. The process for election of members to the board of
22 directors and the duties encompassed in their roles shall be defined in
23 the bylaws of the association.

24 (6) The statewide student association shall carry out educational,
25 issue advocacy, and awareness activities in the interest of its
26 members.

27 (7) The fee shall not be used or authorized to be used for any
28 activity associated with local, state, or federal elections or the
29 election process, including but not limited to, activities associated
30 with the promotion or opposition to a candidate, an election related
31 issue with the intention of influencing an election, or a ballot
32 proposition.

33 (8) The statewide student association shall not be prevented from
34 lobbying government institutions in the interest of its members,
35 including but not limited to: The legislature, the governor and the
36 governor's staff, and other executive branch agencies, boards, and
37 commissions.

1 (9) The board shall adopt rules as may be necessary or appropriate
2 to implement this section.

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