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SENATE BILL 5971

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State of Washington

59th Legislature

2005 Regular Session

By Senators McAuliffe, Pridemore, Schmidt, Eide, Shin, Rockefeller, Berkey, Weinstein, Kohl-Welles, Delvin and Rasmussen

Read first time 02/17/2005. Referred to Committee on Early Learning, K-12 & Higher Education.

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 The board shall recognize one statewide student association for the  
7 state's public four-year institutions. Each recognized campus student  
8 government association shall be affiliated with the statewide student  
9 association. All students enrolled on those campuses shall be members  
10 of the statewide student association, unless they voluntarily choose  
11 not to be.

12 (2)(a) A mandatory statewide student association fee may be  
13 assessed upon all students of the state's four-year institutions,  
14 subject to the approval of the board.

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

17 (c) The mandatory fee may not exceed one-quarter of one percent of  
18 resident undergraduate tuition.

1 (d) The board shall approve any increases to the mandatory fee, and  
2 may do so for several years at one time.

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

8 (3) The statewide student association shall operate at the  
9 direction of a board of directors. Officers of the board shall  
10 represent the diversity of the four-year institutions, including  
11 underrepresented groups and shall be elected from the membership of the  
12 association.

13 (4) The statewide student association shall carry out educational,  
14 issue advocacy, and awareness activities in the interest of its  
15 members.

16 (5) The statewide student association shall not be prevented from  
17 lobbying government institutions in the interest of its members,  
18 including but not limited to: The legislature, the governor and the  
19 governor's staff, and other executive branch agencies, boards, and  
20 commissions.

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