

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT
ENGROSSED SECOND SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2783

60th Legislature
2008 Regular Session

Passed by the House March 10, 2008
Yeas 94 Nays 0

Speaker of the House of Representatives

Passed by the Senate March 7, 2008
Yeas 45 Nays 0

President of the Senate

Approved

Governor of the State of Washington

CERTIFICATE

I, Barbara Baker, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **ENGROSSED SECOND SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2783** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

Chief Clerk

FILED

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

ENGROSSED SECOND SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2783

AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

Passed Legislature - 2008 Regular Session

State of Washington **60th Legislature** **2008 Regular Session**

By House Appropriations (originally sponsored by Representatives Wallace, Chase, Anderson, Sells, Haigh, Roberts, Hasegawa, Morrell, Sullivan, Kenney, and Hudgins)

READ FIRST TIME 02/12/08.

1 AN ACT Relating to transfer and articulation between institutions
2 of higher education; adding new sections to chapter 28B.10 RCW; adding
3 a new section to chapter 28B.76 RCW; and creating new sections.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that students are
6 accessing higher education differently than they have in previous
7 years. Rather than attending a single institution and attaining their
8 degree, many students now attend multiple institutions, sometimes
9 simultaneously.

10 The legislature also finds that learning occurs throughout a
11 person's lifetime. Whether citizens need different training to change
12 careers or need further education for career advancement, people exit
13 and reenter institutions of higher education multiple times and for
14 various reasons.

15 The legislature also finds that current policies and practices do
16 not provide clear, consistent, easily accessible information to ease
17 transition in and among the state's colleges and universities. Often,
18 courses taken at some career and technical schools as well as private
19 for-profit institutions are not accepted in transfer because these

1 schools are not accredited by a regional accrediting body. Students
2 often do not understand that these courses are not transferrable.
3 Students must retake courses once they have transferred into a
4 regionally accredited institution, costing the student additional time
5 and money.

6 Therefore, it is the legislature's intent to improve statewide
7 communication and coordination of transfer and articulation policies
8 and practices. Students should be provided clear, consistent
9 information regarding the courses required for their degrees and how
10 those courses will be treated when a student moves between colleges and
11 universities. This information should be communicated to students and
12 their families in one easily accessible place in a format that is
13 common among all colleges and universities in the state.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.10 RCW
15 to read as follows:

16 (1) The higher education coordinating board shall convene a work
17 group of representatives from the state board for community and
18 technical colleges, the office of the superintendent of public
19 instruction, the council of presidents, and two-year and four-year
20 institutions of higher education including students, to develop a list
21 of rights guaranteed to students who have earned a transfer associate
22 degree under the direct transfer agreement. The work group may be an
23 existing work group that addresses policy issues related to transitions
24 among public and private institutions of higher education and may also
25 include representatives from the independent colleges of Washington, as
26 well as the career and tribal colleges.

27 (2) The list in subsection (1) of this section shall be known as
28 the transfer student bill of rights and shall include statements of
29 institutional policy regarding transfer and articulation to assist
30 students who have earned a transfer associate degree in their academic
31 planning. The list shall include but is not limited to:

32 (a) Admission to each public and private two-year and four-year
33 institution of higher education that participates in the direct
34 transfer agreement;

35 (b) The number of credits that will transfer;

36 (c) Academic requirements fulfilled by the degree at the receiving
37 institution;

1 (d) Acceptance of credit earned in dual enrollment and accelerated
2 programs such as advanced placement, running start, and international
3 baccalaureate;

4 (e) Acceptance of credits earned at nonregionally accredited
5 institutions; and

6 (f) Advance knowledge of selection criteria for limited access
7 programs.

8 (3) The work group shall determine which elements in this section
9 are guaranteed to students entering a four-year institution of higher
10 education and which elements differ based on admission requirements at
11 a specific institution or program. The work group must determine the
12 clearest manner in which to communicate this information to students
13 and their families as part of the transfer student bill of rights.

14 (4) The transfer student bill of rights shall be displayed
15 prominently in a user-friendly area of each institution's web site.
16 Admissions offices, transfer planning offices, recruiting offices and
17 other relevant offices at public and private institutions of higher
18 education shall also make the transfer student bill of rights available
19 to prospective and enrolled students. Public institutions of higher
20 education shall make the bill of rights available by September 2009.
21 The transfer student bill of rights may also be used by private
22 institutions of higher education participating in direct transfer
23 agreements.

24 (5) For purposes of this section, "nonregionally accredited
25 institutions" means only those institutions that are fully accredited
26 by a national accrediting agency recognized by the United States
27 department of education.

28 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.76 RCW
29 to read as follows:

30 (1) The higher education coordinating board must convene a work
31 group including representatives from the state board for community and
32 technical colleges, the workforce training and education coordinating
33 board, the council of presidents, two-year institutions of higher
34 education, and four-year institutions of higher education to develop a
35 plan to monitor the progress and success of transfer students. The
36 workgroup may be an existing work group that addresses policy issues
37 related to transitions across institutions of higher education.

1 (2) The plan shall contain data that measures student progress
2 through the higher education system that can be monitored over time.
3 This information shall include, but not be limited to:

4 (a) The number of students who indicate their intent to transfer at
5 the time of enrollment and the percentage of those students who
6 actually transfer or earn an associate degree within three years;

7 (b) Educational outcomes for students who declare their intent to
8 transfer, earn at least fifteen academic credits, and transfer within
9 three years;

10 (c) The percentage of students who earn their four-year degree
11 within three years of earning their associate degree;

12 (d) The average time and credits to completion of an academic
13 transfer degree including the direct transfer agreement, the associate
14 of science-transfer, and all major related programs; and

15 (e) The average grade point average for students who attain their
16 transfer associate degrees.

17 (3) The plan shall also include analysis regarding the barriers
18 that transfer students face in pursuit of their four-year degree and
19 recommendations to address those barriers.

20 (4) The higher education coordinating board, in collaboration with
21 the work group and the state board for community and technical
22 colleges, shall report to the appropriate committees of the legislature
23 by January 2009, and thereafter on a time schedule consistent with
24 reporting related to monitoring progress toward the higher education
25 coordinating board master plan goals.

26 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.10 RCW
27 to read as follows:

28 (1) Consistent with the statewide strategic master plan for higher
29 education, the higher education coordinating board shall convene a work
30 group identified in section 2(1) of this act that shall recommend the
31 best means to identify, at the time of registration, the
32 transferability and applicability of community and technical college
33 courses to students' baccalaureate degree goals.

34 (2) Whether and to what extent each course published in an
35 institutional catalog is transferrable must be identified in a manner
36 mutually agreed upon by the two-year institutions of higher education
37 and four-year institutions of higher education.

1 (3) Institutions of higher education must publish this information
2 either on the internet, in physical course catalogs, or by another
3 means identified by the work group that addresses the needs of students
4 without access to the internet.

5 (4) The system of identification in this section shall be
6 implemented by September 2009.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** (1) Consistent with the schedule and work
8 plans for implementation of the strategic master plan for higher
9 education, the higher education coordinating board shall convene a work
10 group or assign an existing work group that includes broad
11 representation from the workforce training and education coordinating
12 board, the state board for community and technical colleges,
13 institutions of higher education, the independent colleges of
14 Washington, the career and tribal colleges, the center for information
15 services, student representatives from two-year and four-year
16 institutions of higher education, and the office of the superintendent
17 of public instruction to create a detailed plan for developing and
18 implementing a statewide web-based academic planning tool. The
19 web-based academic planning tool would be used by current, prospective,
20 and returning students to plan their path from high school through the
21 attainment of their higher education goals.

22 (2) The plan shall contain information including, but not limited
23 to:

24 (a) Functions that will be included in the web site;

25 (b) Options for development including, but not limited to:
26 Purchasing the entire system from a vendor; purchasing parts of the
27 system from a private vendor; building parts of the system with
28 Washington informational technology resources; and building the entire
29 system with Washington information technology resources; and

30 (c) Costs associated with each of the options in this subsection.

31 (3) The higher education coordinating board shall report to the
32 appropriate committees of the legislature by December 15, 2008. The
33 report shall include recommendations on the most robust yet cost-
34 effective options for the web-based academic planning tool.

35 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** If specific funding for the purposes of this

1 act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not provided by
2 June 30, 2008, in the omnibus appropriations act, this act is null and
3 void.

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