

ESSB 6444 - H AMD TO H AMD (H-5483.2/10) 1309

By Representative Anderson

ADOPTED 3/05/2010

1 On page 208, after line 16, insert the following:

2 "(9)(a) Within existing resources, a legislative task force on
3 four-year public university access and affordability is established
4 with the following membership:

5 (i) The president of the senate shall appoint one member from
6 each of the two largest caucuses of the senate. At least one member
7 shall be a member of the senate higher education and workforce
8 development committee and at least one member shall be a member of
9 the senate ways and means committee;

10 (ii) The speaker of the house of representatives shall appoint
11 one member from each of the two largest caucuses of the house of
12 representatives. At least one member shall be a member of the house
13 higher education committee and at least one member shall be a member
14 of the house education appropriations committee; and

15 (iii) The governor shall appoint the chair of the committee, who
16 is a non-voting member. The appointee shall not be a current or
17 former trustee, employee, vendor, or contractor to a Washington
18 public four-year institution of higher education.

19 (b) Staff support for the task force shall be provided by the
20 house office of program research and senate committee services.

21 (c) The duties of the task force shall include:

22 (i) Recommending a ten-year integrated and comprehensive state
23 policy to align state investments in institutional support and
24 financial aid, tuition, and cost management;

25 (ii) Reviewing all aspects of the business operations of the
26 public four-year institutions;

27

1 (iii) Issuing recommendations on changes to optimize the use of
2 resources and yield savings that can be redirected so as to maintain
3 academic and research quality, accommodate increasing enrollment
4 demands, and moderate tuition increases; and
5 (iv) Conducting an analysis of four-year graduate job placement
6 and retention.
7 (d) The workgroup shall report to the appropriate committees of
8 the legislature by December 1, 2010, with findings and
9 recommendations regarding long-term, sustainable, integrated, and
10 comprehensive policies regarding tuition, state funding levels,
11 financial aid, and institutional cost management."

12
13

EFFECT: Establishes a legislative task force on four-year higher education institution affordability and access. The group will consist of one member from each caucus of both the House and Senate and will be staffed by legislative staff. The group will recommend a 10-year strategy that aligns state support, financial aid, tuition, and cost management and includes an analysis of higher education business operations and job placement and retention of graduates. The report is due to the Legislature by December 1, 2010.

FISCAL IMPACT: None.

--- END ---