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HOUSE BILL 1025

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State of Washington                      61st Legislature                      2009 Regular Session

By Representatives Armstrong, Upthegrove, and Wallace

Prefiled 12/08/08. Read first time 01/12/09. Referred to Committee on Higher Education.

1            AN ACT Relating to cost savings on course materials; and amending  
2 RCW 28B.10.590.

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

4            **Sec. 1.** RCW 28B.10.590 and 2007 c 457 s 1 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6            (1) The boards of regents of the state universities, the boards of  
7 trustees of the regional universities and The Evergreen State College,  
8 and the boards of trustees of each community and technical college  
9 district, in collaboration with affiliated bookstores and student and  
10 faculty representatives, shall adopt rules requiring that:

11            (a) Affiliated bookstores:

12            (i) Provide students the option of purchasing materials that are  
13 unbundled when possible, disclose to faculty and staff the costs to  
14 students of purchasing materials, and disclose publicly how new  
15 editions vary from previous editions;

16            (ii) Actively promote and publicize book buy-back programs; (~~and~~)

17            (iii) Disclose retail costs for course materials on a per course  
18 basis to faculty and staff and make this information publicly  
19 available; and

1       (iv) Disclose information to students on required course materials  
2 including but not limited to title, authors, edition, price, and  
3 International Standard Book Number (ISBN) at least four weeks before  
4 the start of the class for which the materials are required. The chief  
5 academic officer may waive the disclosure requirement provided in this  
6 subsection (1)(a)(iv), on a case by case basis, provided that students  
7 can reliably expect that nearly all information regarding course  
8 materials is available four weeks before the start of the class for  
9 which the materials are required.

10       (b) Faculty and staff members consider the least costly practices  
11 in assigning course materials, such as adopting the least expensive  
12 edition available when educational content is comparable as determined  
13 by the faculty and working closely with publishers and local bookstores  
14 to create bundles and packages if they deliver cost savings to  
15 students.

16       (2) As used in this section:

17       (a) "Materials" means any supplies or texts required or recommended  
18 by faculty or staff for a given course.

19       (b) "Bundled" means a group of objects joined together by packaging  
20 or required to be purchased as an indivisible unit.

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