
SENATE BILL 5077

State of Washington

61st Legislature

2009 Regular Session

By Senators Jacobsen and Kline

Read first time 01/12/09. Referred to Committee on Higher Education & Workforce Development.

1 AN ACT Relating to creating the historically Black college fund
2 pilot project; amending RCW 28B.10.790 and 28B.92.030; adding new
3 sections to chapter 28B.76 RCW; creating a new section; and providing
4 expiration dates.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that:

7 (a) The racial and ethnic diversity of the population of Washington
8 is increasing;

9 (b) Employers' demand for well-educated and well-trained graduates
10 of all ethnic backgrounds is increasing;

11 (c) Special efforts should be made to increase the participation of
12 people of color in higher education programs;

13 (d) Some of Washington's students of color would benefit from an
14 opportunity to study in specialized programs or institutions of higher
15 education located in other states;

16 (e) The state could benefit by creating pilot projects that study
17 creative, cost-effective ways to meet the postsecondary education needs
18 of Washington's students; and

1 (f) Historically Black colleges enroll and graduate the majority of
2 African-American professionals and Ph.D. candidates in the United
3 States.

4 (2) Therefore, the legislature intends to direct the higher
5 education coordinating board to establish a pilot project that permits
6 a limited number of students to use their state need grant awards to
7 study at Morehouse College, Howard University, Spelman College,
8 Grambling State University, and Tuskegee University.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.76 RCW
10 to read as follows:

11 (1) The historically Black college fund pilot project is created.
12 Through the pilot project, up to one hundred students may use their
13 state-funded need grant awards when they study at Morehouse College,
14 Howard University, Spelman College, Grambling State University, or
15 Tuskegee University.

16 (2) This section expires June 30, 2014.

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

19 (1) The board shall administer the historically Black college fund
20 pilot project.

21 (2) The board shall permit up to one hundred needy Washington
22 residents domiciled in Washington for at least one year before
23 enrollment to use their state need grant awards if the students are
24 enrolled half-time or more in Morehouse College, Howard University,
25 Spelman College, Grambling State University, or Tuskegee University.

26 (3) The board may adopt rules to establish eligibility criteria for
27 student and institutional participation in the pilot project.

28 (4) The board shall limit participation in the pilot project to no
29 more than a total of one hundred students during the course of the
30 project.

31 (5) By December 15, 2014, the board shall report to the governor
32 and appropriate committees of the legislature on the results of the
33 pilot project. The report shall include a recommendation on the extent
34 financial aid portability programs should be revised or expanded for
35 Washington's students.

36 (6) This section expires June 30, 2014.

1 **Sec. 4.** RCW 28B.10.790 and 2004 c 275 s 44 are each amended to
2 read as follows:

3 (1) Washington residents attending any nonprofit college or
4 university in another state which has a reciprocity agreement with the
5 state of Washington shall be eligible for the student financial aid
6 program outlined in chapter 28B.92 RCW if ~~((+1))~~ (a) they qualify as
7 a "needy student" under RCW 28B.92.030(3), and ~~((+2))~~ (b) the
8 institution attended is a member institution of an accrediting
9 association recognized by rule of the ~~((higher education coordinating))~~
10 board for the purposes of this section and is specifically encompassed
11 within or directly affected by such reciprocity agreement and agrees to
12 and complies with program rules ~~((and regulations))~~ pertaining to such
13 students and institutions adopted pursuant to RCW 28B.92.150.

14 (2) Washington residents participating in the pilot project under
15 section 2 of this act are eligible for the student financial aid
16 program outlined in RCW 28B.92.010 through 28B.92.150 if the residents
17 (a) qualify as needy students under RCW 28B.92.030(3), (b) are enrolled
18 at an eligible institution as defined by the board under section 3 of
19 this act, and (c) meet any additional criteria established by the board
20 for participation in the pilot project.

21 **Sec. 5.** RCW 28B.92.030 and 2004 c 275 s 35 are each amended to
22 read as follows:

23 As used in this chapter:

24 (1) "Institution or institutions of higher education" means:

25 (a) Any public university, college, community college, or technical
26 college operated by the state of Washington or any political
27 subdivision thereof; ~~((or))~~

28 (b) Until June 30, 2014, any institution of higher education that
29 meets the eligibility requirements established by the board under
30 section 3 of this act; or

31 (c) Any other university, college, school, or institute in the
32 state of Washington offering instruction beyond the high school level
33 which is a member institution of an accrediting association recognized
34 by rule of the board for the purposes of this section: PROVIDED, That
35 any institution, branch, extension or facility operating within the
36 state of Washington which is affiliated with an institution operating
37 in another state must be a separately accredited member institution of

1 any such accrediting association, or a branch of a member institution
2 of an accrediting association recognized by rule of the board for
3 purposes of this section, that is eligible for federal student
4 financial aid assistance and has operated as a nonprofit college or
5 university delivering on-site classroom instruction for a minimum of
6 twenty consecutive years within the state of Washington, and has an
7 annual enrollment of at least seven hundred full-time equivalent
8 students: PROVIDED FURTHER, That no institution of higher education
9 shall be eligible to participate in a student financial aid program
10 unless it agrees to and complies with program rules and regulations
11 adopted pursuant to RCW 28B.92.150.

12 (2) "Financial aid" means loans and/or grants to needy students
13 enrolled or accepted for enrollment as a student at institutions of
14 higher education.

15 (3) "Needy student" means a post high school student of an
16 institution of higher education who demonstrates to the board the
17 financial inability, either through the student's parents, family
18 and/or personally, to meet the total cost of board, room, books, and
19 tuition and incidental fees for any semester or quarter.

20 (4) "Disadvantaged student" means a post high school student who by
21 reason of adverse cultural, educational, environmental, experiential,
22 familial or other circumstances is unable to qualify for enrollment as
23 a full time student in an institution of higher education, who would
24 otherwise qualify as a needy student, and who is attending an
25 institution of higher education under an established program designed
26 to qualify the student for enrollment as a full time student.

27 (5) "Board" means the higher education coordinating board.

--- END ---