
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5625

State of Washington

61st Legislature

2009 Regular Session

By Senate Higher Education & Workforce Development (originally sponsored by Senators Haugen, Berkey, Hobbs, Shin, and Ranker)

READ FIRST TIME 02/25/09.

1 AN ACT Relating to creating a state college; adding a new section
2 to chapter 28B.10 RCW; creating new sections; providing a contingent
3 effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.10 RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 (1) A college in Snohomish county is established. The college must
8 provide baccalaureate and graduate level higher education programs
9 primarily to the citizens of Snohomish, Island, and Skagit counties
10 under rules or guidelines adopted by the higher education coordinating
11 board.

12 (2) The priorities of the college shall be: (a) Preparing students
13 for careers in high employer demand fields such as science, technology,
14 and engineering; (b) preparing students for careers in clean energy,
15 clean energy technology, sustainable energy and smart grid
16 technologies, and green building design and architecture; and (c)
17 developing an atmosphere of innovation, entrepreneurship, and economic
18 development by encouraging relationships with the business community

1 and providing on-campus or near-campus locations for the development of
2 incubator projects and businesses.

3 (3) The college shall provide upper division capacity for transfer
4 students and may offer lower division courses linked to specific majors
5 in fields not addressed at local community colleges. In addition, the
6 college may also directly admit freshman and sophomores gradually and
7 deliberately in accordance with the campus plan to be submitted to the
8 higher education coordinating board. The college shall admit students
9 through coadmission or coenrollment agreements with a community college
10 emphasizing access for transfer students codeveloped by the college and
11 the state board for community and technical colleges.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The legislature finds that as part of
13 its planning work designed to support implementation of the strategic
14 master plan for higher education, the higher education coordinating
15 board, in collaboration with the state board for community and
16 technical colleges, the council of presidents, the independent colleges
17 of Washington, and other stakeholders, has initiated a system design
18 planning project for the purpose of examining issues including, but not
19 limited to, the following:

20 (a) The structure of the current higher education delivery system
21 and how that structure can be expanded and shaped over the next twenty
22 years to best meet the needs of Washington citizens while optimizing
23 the public investment in postsecondary education;

24 (b) Strategies for applying an "expand on demand" planning
25 principle intended to authorize new postsecondary educational resources
26 when there is demonstrated demand and to ensure that new postsecondary
27 educational resources that may become available contribute to and are
28 in concert with all other parts of the existing system of higher
29 education; and

30 (c) Other issues as deemed appropriate by the higher education
31 coordinating board.

32 (2) The legislature finds that the results of the planning project
33 in this section should inform policy decisions concerning the expansion
34 of the higher education system and changes to the role and mission of
35 existing parts of the higher education system.

36 (3) The higher education coordinating board shall report the

1 findings and recommendations of the system design planning project to
2 the governor and the higher education and fiscal committees of the
3 legislature by December 1, 2009.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) Section 1 of this act takes effect July
5 1, 2010, only if:

6 (a) A plan describing the proposed role and mission, academic
7 program, and governance of any new campus, institution, or university
8 center authorized by this act, or change in the mission of an existing
9 campus, institution, or university center authorized by this act is
10 submitted to the higher education coordinating board; and

11 (b) The higher education coordinating board determines the plan
12 described in (a) of this subsection is consistent with the findings and
13 recommendations of the system design planning project in section 2 of
14 this act.

15 (2) By July 1, 2010, the higher education coordinating board shall
16 notify appropriate committees of the legislature and the code reviser's
17 office regarding whether section 1 of this act takes effect.

18 (3) If the conditions in this section do not occur by July 1, 2010,
19 section 1 of this act is null and void.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** Section 2 of this act is necessary for the
21 immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or
22 support of the state government and its existing public institutions,
23 and takes effect immediately.

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