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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5924**

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**State of Washington**

**61st Legislature**

**2009 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Early Learning & K-12 Education (originally sponsored by Senators McAuliffe, Oemig, Kilmer, and McDermott)

READ FIRST TIME 02/19/09.

1       AN ACT Relating to the running start program; amending RCW  
2       28A.600.310; and creating a new section.

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

4       NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 1.**   The running start program has provided  
5       economic savings to parents, students, and to the state by providing  
6       the opportunity for high school students to earn college credit while  
7       enrolled in high school. The state has also been helped to advance its  
8       target for associate and baccalaureate degree completions and helped in  
9       improving students' time-to-degree rates through running start. The  
10      program's overall success has benefited students, parents, communities,  
11      and the state's economic development, all while providing real monetary  
12      savings. Therefore, it is the intent of the legislature to expand  
13      participation in running start and secure ample support for the  
14      continuation of this highly successful program.

15      **Sec. 2.**   RCW 28A.600.310 and 2005 c 125 s 1 are each amended to  
16      read as follows:

17      (1) Eleventh and twelfth grade students or students who have not  
18      yet received the credits required for the award of a high school

1 diploma and are eligible to be in the eleventh or twelfth grades may  
2 apply to a participating institution of higher education to enroll in  
3 courses or programs offered by the institution of higher education. A  
4 student receiving home-based instruction enrolling in a public high  
5 school for the sole purpose of participating in courses or programs  
6 offered by institutions of higher education shall not be counted by the  
7 school district in any required state or federal accountability  
8 reporting if the student's parents or guardians filed a declaration of  
9 intent to provide home-based instruction and the student received home-  
10 based instruction during the school year before the school year in  
11 which the student intends to participate in courses or programs offered  
12 by the institution of higher education. Students receiving home-based  
13 instruction under chapter 28A.200 RCW and students attending private  
14 schools approved under chapter 28A.195 RCW shall not be required to  
15 meet the student learning goals, obtain a certificate of academic  
16 achievement or a certificate of individual achievement to graduate from  
17 high school, or to master the essential academic learning requirements.  
18 However, students are eligible to enroll in courses or programs in  
19 participating universities only if the board of directors of the  
20 student's school district has decided to participate in the program.  
21 Participating institutions of higher education, in consultation with  
22 school districts, may establish admission standards for these students.  
23 If the institution of higher education accepts a secondary school pupil  
24 for enrollment under this section, the institution of higher education  
25 shall send written notice to the pupil and the pupil's school district  
26 within ten days of acceptance. The notice shall indicate the course  
27 and hours of enrollment for that pupil.

28 (2) The pupil's school district shall transmit to the institution  
29 of higher education an amount per each full-time equivalent college  
30 student at statewide uniform rates for vocational and nonvocational  
31 students. The superintendent of public instruction shall separately  
32 calculate and allocate moneys appropriated for basic education under  
33 RCW 28A.150.260 to school districts for purposes of making such  
34 payments and for granting school districts seven percent thereof to  
35 offset program related costs. The calculations and allocations shall  
36 be based upon the estimated statewide annual average per full-time  
37 equivalent high school student allocations under RCW 28A.150.260,  
38 excluding small high school enhancements, and applicable rules adopted

1 under chapter 34.05 RCW. The superintendent of public instruction, the  
2 higher education coordinating board, and the state board for community  
3 and technical colleges shall consult on the calculation and  
4 distribution of the funds. The institution of higher education shall  
5 not require the pupil to pay any other fees. The funds received by the  
6 institution of higher education from the school district shall not be  
7 deemed tuition or operating fees and may be retained by the institution  
8 of higher education. A student enrolled under this subsection shall  
9 ~~((not))~~ be counted for the purpose of ~~((determining any))~~ meeting  
10 enrollment ~~((restrictions))~~ targets imposed by the state on the  
11 institution of higher education.

12 (3) The state board for community and technical colleges in  
13 collaboration with the office of the superintendent of public  
14 instruction and the higher education coordinating board shall develop  
15 long-term funding proposals to support running start that may include,  
16 but not be limited to, student tuition and performance funding. The  
17 state board for community and technical colleges shall report its  
18 recommendations to the legislature by December 1, 2010.

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