

2SHB 1792 - H AMD 240

By Representative Dunshee

ADOPTED 03/04/2011

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.30
4 RCW to read as follows:

5 (1) The legislature finds that access to baccalaureate and graduate
6 degree programs continues to be limited for residents of north
7 Snohomish, Island, and Skagit counties. Studies conducted by the state
8 board for community and technical colleges, the higher education
9 coordinating board, and the council of presidents confirm that
10 enrollment in higher education compared to demand in this geographic
11 region lags behind enrollment in other parts of the state, particularly
12 for upper-division courses leading to advanced degrees.

13 (2) The legislature also finds that access to high employer demand
14 programs of study is imperative for the state's global competitiveness
15 and economic prosperity, particularly those degrees in the science,
16 technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields that align with the
17 workforce skill demands of the regional economy, that support the
18 aerospace industry, and provide skilled undergraduate and
19 graduate-degree engineers required by the largest employers in the
20 aerospace industry cluster.

21 (3) The legislature finds that meeting the long-range goal of
22 greatly expanded access for the population of the region to the widest
23 array of baccalaureate and graduate programs can best be accomplished
24 by assigning responsibility to a research university with multiple
25 experiences in similar settings.

26 (4) Management and leadership of the University Center of North
27 Puget Sound is assigned to Washington State University to meet the
28 needs of the Everett metropolitan area and the north Snohomish, Island,
29 and Skagit county region and the state of Washington for baccalaureate
30 and graduate degrees offered by a state university. The chief

1 executive officer of the University Center of North Puget Sound is the
2 director who reports to the president of Washington State University.
3 The director shall manage the activities and logistics of operating the
4 center, make policy and planning recommendations to the council in
5 subsection (5) of this section, and implement decisions of the council.

6 (5)(a) Washington State University and Everett Community College
7 must collaborate with community leaders, and other four-year
8 institutions of higher education that offer programs at the University
9 Center of North Puget Sound to serve the varied interests of students
10 in the region. To this end, a coordinating and planning council must
11 be established to be responsible for long-range and strategic planning,
12 interinstitutional collaboration, collaboration with the community
13 served, and dispute resolution for the center. The following
14 individuals shall comprise the coordinating and planning council:

15 (i) The president of Washington State University, or his or her
16 designee;

17 (ii) The provost of Washington State University, or his or her
18 designee;

19 (iii) The president of Everett Community College;

20 (iv) A representative of one other institution of higher education
21 that offers baccalaureate or graduate degree programs at the center;

22 (v) The director of the council, as the nonvoting chair;

23 (vi) A community leader appointed by the president of Everett
24 Community College;

25 (vii) A community leader appointed by the president of Washington
26 State University; and

27 (viii) A community leader appointed by the mayor of Everett.

28 (b) The coordinating and planning council may appoint other groups,
29 as appropriate, to advise on administration and operations, and may
30 alter its own composition by agreement of all the members.

31 (6)(a) Washington State University shall assume leadership of the
32 center upon completion of a strategic plan for meeting the academic
33 needs of the region and successful establishment of an engineering
34 degree program. The strategic plan must build on the strengths of the
35 institutions, reflecting each institution's mission, in order to
36 provide the region with the highest standard of educational programs,
37 research, and service to the community. The strategic plan must
38 include a multibiennium budget that addresses both operating and

1 capital expenses required to effectively implement the plan. The
2 strategic plan shall be developed with the collaboration of the
3 University Center at Everett Community College and all the institutions
4 of higher education that provide baccalaureate degrees at the
5 University Center, and community leaders.

6 (b) Center partners must implement the strategic plan with careful
7 attention to the academic and professional standards established and
8 maintained by each institution and by the appropriate accrediting
9 bodies, and to the historic role of each institution's governing board
10 in setting policy.

11 (c) The strategic plan must address expansion of the range and
12 depth of educational opportunities in the region and include strategies
13 that:

14 (i) Build upon baccalaureate and graduate degree offerings at the
15 center;

16 (ii) Meet projected student enrollment demands for baccalaureate,
17 graduate, and certificate programs in the region;

18 (iii) Meet employers' needs for skilled workers by expanding high
19 employer demand programs of study, with an initial emphasis by
20 Washington State University on undergraduate and graduate engineering
21 degree programs in a variety of engineering disciplines such as civil,
22 mechanical, aeronautical, and aerospace manufacturing;

23 (iv) Coordinate delivery of lower and upper division courses to
24 maximize student opportunities and resources; and

25 (v) Transfer budget support and resources for the center from
26 Everett Community College to Washington State University.

27 (d) The strategic plan must be completed by July 1, 2013. The
28 transfer of the responsibility for the management and operation of the
29 University Center of North Puget Sound to Washington State University
30 must occur by July 1, 2014.

31 (7)(a) Academic programming and delivery at the center must be
32 developed in accordance with the missions of Washington State
33 University, Everett Community College, and other institutions of higher
34 education that have a presence at the center.

35 (b) Each institution shall abide by the guidelines for university
36 centers adopted by the higher education coordinating board.

37 (c) Each institution shall award all degrees and certificates
38 granted in the programs it delivers at the center.

1 (d) The coordinating council described in subsection (5) of this
2 section shall establish a process for prioritizing new programs and
3 revising existing programs that facilitates timeliness of new
4 offerings, recognizes the internal processes of the proposing
5 institutions, and addresses each proposal's fit with the needs of the
6 region.

7 (8)(a) Washington State University shall review center expansion
8 needs and consider capital facilities funding at least annually.
9 Washington State University and Everett Community College must
10 cooperate in preparing funding requests and bond financing for
11 submission to the legislature on behalf of development at the center,
12 in accordance with each institution's process and priorities for
13 advancing legislative requests.

14 (b) Washington State University shall design, construct, and manage
15 any facility developed at the center. Any facility developed at the
16 center with Everett Community College capital funding must be designed
17 by Everett Community College in consultation with Washington State
18 University. Building construction may be managed by Washington State
19 University via an interagency agreement which details responsibility
20 and associated costs. Building operations and management for all
21 facilities at the center must be governed by the infrastructure and
22 operating cost allocation method described in subsection (9) of this
23 section.

24 (9) Washington State University has responsibility for
25 infrastructure development and maintenance for the center. All
26 infrastructure operating and maintenance costs are to be shared in what
27 is deemed to be an equitable and fair manner based on space allocation,
28 special cost, and other relevant considerations. Washington State
29 University may make infrastructure development and maintenance
30 decisions in consultation with the council described in subsection (5)
31 of this section.

32 (10) In the event that conflict cannot be resolved through the
33 coordinating council described in subsection (5) of this section the
34 higher education coordinating board dispute resolution must be
35 employed.

36 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28B.50.795 and 2010 1st sp.s. c 25 s 1 are each
37 amended to read as follows:

1 (1) (~~RCW 28B.50.901 assigns responsibility for the north~~
2 ~~Snohomish, Island, and Skagit counties' higher education consortium to~~
3 ~~Everett Community College. In April of 2009, Everett Community College~~
4 ~~opened Gray Wolf Hall, the new home of the University Center of North~~
5 ~~Puget Sound. The University Center currently offers over twenty~~
6 ~~bachelor's and master's degrees from six partner universities.~~

7 (2)) Although Everett Community College offers an associate degree
8 nursing program that graduates approximately seventy to ninety students
9 per year, the University Center does not offer a bachelor of science in
10 nursing. Some graduates of the Everett Community College program are
11 able to articulate to the bachelor of science in nursing program
12 offered by the University of Washington-Bothell at its Bothell campus
13 or in Mt. Vernon but current capacity is not sufficient for all of the
14 graduates who are both interested and qualified.

15 ((3)) (2) Despite recent growth in nursing education capacity,
16 shortages still persist for registered nurses. According to a June
17 2007 study by the Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana, and Idaho
18 center for health workforce studies, the average age of Washington's
19 registered nurses was forty-eight years. More than a third were fifty-
20 five years of age or older. Consequently, the high rate of registered
21 nurses retiring from nursing practice over the next two decades will
22 significantly reduce the supply. This reduction comes at the same time
23 as the state's population grows and ages. The registered nurse
24 education capacity in Washington has a large impact on the supply of
25 registered nurses in the state. If the rate of graduation in
26 registered nursing does not increase, projections show that supply in
27 Washington will begin to decline by 2015. In contrast, if graduation
28 rates increased by four hundred per year, the supply of registered
29 nurses would meet estimated demand by the year 2021.

30 ((4)) (3) Subject to specific funding to support up to fifty
31 full-time equivalent students in a bachelor of nursing program, the
32 University Center ((at Everett Community College)) of North Puget
33 Sound, in partnership with the University of Washington-Bothell, shall
34 offer a bachelor of science in nursing program with capacity for up to
35 fifty full-time students.

36 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) This act takes effect only after the
37 higher education coordinating board determines whether a needs

1 assessment and analysis is required and, if so, conducts a needs
2 assessment and viability determination under RCW 28B.76.230 and
3 recommends that the provisions in section 1 of this act occur.

4 (2) The higher education coordinating board shall notify the office
5 of financial management, the legislature, and the code reviser's office
6 of the board's recommendations regarding the provisions in section 1 of
7 this act.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** RCW 28B.50.901 (Regional higher education
9 consortium management and leadership--Everett Community College--
10 Educational plan) and 2005 c 258 s 13 are each repealed."

11 Correct the title.

EFFECT: Assigns management and leadership of the University
Center of North Puget Sound to Washington State University. Washington
State University must collaborate with the University Center at Everett
Community College and other university partners that offer
baccalaureate degrees at the University Center to develop a strategic
plan. Requires that the strategic plan build on degrees offered at the
University Center; addresses demand for degrees by students and
employers and a variety of engineering disciplines; and includes a
multibiennium budget. Creates a Coordinating and Planning council to
develop the strategic plan. Requires that the strategic plan be
completed by July 1, 2013, and that the transfer of operation and
management occur by July 1, 2014.

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