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HOUSE BILL 1654

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By Representatives Zeiger, Sells, Haler, Miloscia, Buys, Dammeier, Johnson, Dahlquist, Fagan, Warnick, Smith, Anderson, and Kelley

Read first time 01/28/11. Referred to Committee on Higher Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to the timely completion of baccalaureate and  
2 applied baccalaureate degrees, including tuition for excess credits;  
3 and amending RCW 28B.10.695, 28B.15.067, and 43.41.400.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28B.10.695 and 2003 c 407 s 1 are each amended to read  
6 as follows:

7 (1) Each four-year institution of higher education and the state  
8 board for community and technical colleges shall develop policies that  
9 ensure undergraduate students enrolled in degree or certificate  
10 programs complete their programs in a timely manner in order to make  
11 the most efficient use of instructional resources and provide capacity  
12 within the institution for additional students.

13 (2) Policies adopted under this section shall address, but not be  
14 limited to, undergraduate students in the following circumstances:

15 (a) Students who accumulate more than one hundred twenty-five  
16 percent of the number of credits required to complete their respective  
17 baccalaureate or associate degree or certificate programs;

18 (b) Students who drop more than twenty-five percent of their course

1 load before the grading period for the quarter or semester, which  
2 prevents efficient use of instructional resources; and

3 (c) Students who remain on academic probation for more than one  
4 quarter or semester.

5 ~~((3) Policies adopted under this section may include assessment by  
6 the institution of a surcharge in addition to regular tuition and fees  
7 to be paid by a student for continued enrollment.))~~

8 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28B.15.067 and 2010 c 20 s 7 are each amended to read  
9 as follows:

10 (1) Tuition fees shall be established under the provisions of this  
11 chapter.

12 (2) Beginning with the 2003-04 academic year and ending with the  
13 2012-13 academic year, reductions or increases in full-time tuition  
14 fees for resident undergraduates shall be as provided in the omnibus  
15 appropriations act.

16 (3)(a) Beginning with the 2003-04 academic year and ending with the  
17 2012-13 academic year, the governing boards of the state universities,  
18 the regional universities, The Evergreen State College, and the state  
19 board for community and technical colleges may reduce or increase full-  
20 time tuition fees for all students other than resident undergraduates,  
21 including summer school students and students in other self-supporting  
22 degree programs. Percentage increases in full-time tuition fees may  
23 exceed the fiscal growth factor. Reductions or increases may be made  
24 for all or portions of an institution's programs, campuses, courses, or  
25 students.

26 (b) Prior to reducing or increasing tuition for each academic year,  
27 the governing boards of the state universities, the regional  
28 universities, and The Evergreen State College shall consult with  
29 existing student associations or organizations with student  
30 undergraduate and graduate representatives regarding the impacts of  
31 potential tuition increases. Governing boards shall be required to  
32 provide data regarding the percentage of students receiving financial  
33 aid, the sources of aid, and the percentage of total costs of  
34 attendance paid for by aid.

35 (c) Prior to reducing or increasing tuition for each academic year,  
36 each college in the state board for community and technical college  
37 system shall consult with existing student associations or

1 organizations with undergraduate student representation regarding the  
2 impacts of potential tuition increases. Colleges shall provide data  
3 regarding the percentage of students receiving financial aid, the  
4 sources of aid, and the percentage of total costs of attendance paid  
5 for by aid.

6 (4) Academic year tuition for full-time students at the state's  
7 institutions of higher education beginning with 2015-16, other than  
8 summer term, shall be as charged during the 2014-15 academic year  
9 unless different rates are adopted by the legislature.

10 (5) The tuition fees established under this chapter shall not apply  
11 to high school students enrolling in participating institutions of  
12 higher education under RCW 28A.600.300 through 28A.600.400.

13 (6) The tuition fees established under this chapter shall not apply  
14 to eligible students enrolling in a dropout reengagement program  
15 through an interlocal agreement between a school district and a  
16 community or technical college under RCW 28A.175.100 through  
17 28A.175.110.

18 (7) The tuition fees established under this chapter shall not apply  
19 to eligible students enrolling in a community or technical college  
20 participating in the pilot program under RCW 28B.50.534 for the purpose  
21 of obtaining a high school diploma.

22 (8) For the academic years 2003-04 through 2008-09, the University  
23 of Washington shall use an amount equivalent to ten percent of all  
24 revenues received as a result of law school tuition increases beginning  
25 in academic year 2000-01 through academic year 2008-09 to assist needy  
26 low and middle-income resident law students.

27 (9) For the academic years 2003-04 through 2008-09, institutions of  
28 higher education shall use an amount equivalent to ten percent of all  
29 revenues received as a result of graduate academic school tuition  
30 increases beginning in academic year 2003-04 through academic year  
31 2008-09 to assist needy low and middle-income resident graduate  
32 academic students.

33 (10) Any tuition increases above seven percent shall fund costs of  
34 instruction, library and student services, utilities and maintenance,  
35 other costs related to instruction as well as institutional financial  
36 aid. Through 2010-11, any funding reductions to instruction, library  
37 and student services, utilities and maintenance and other costs related

1 to instruction shall be proportionally less than other program areas  
2 including administration.

3 (11) Beginning in the 2011-12 academic year, four-year institutions  
4 of higher education and the state board for community and technical  
5 colleges must charge resident undergraduate students at the nonresident  
6 or graduate tuition rates for any credits that exceed one hundred  
7 twenty-five percent of the credits that the student requires to obtain  
8 a baccalaureate or applied baccalaureate degree. A waiver may be  
9 granted to students under unusual circumstances in accordance with  
10 policies adopted by the institutions of higher education or the state  
11 board for community and technical colleges under RCW 28B.10.695.

12 **Sec. 3.** RCW 43.41.400 and 2009 c 548 s 201 are each amended to  
13 read as follows:

14 (1) An education data center shall be established in the office of  
15 financial management. The education data center shall jointly, with  
16 the legislative evaluation and accountability program committee,  
17 conduct collaborative analyses of early learning, K-12, and higher  
18 education programs and education issues across the P-20 system, which  
19 includes the department of early learning, the superintendent of public  
20 instruction, the professional educator standards board, the state board  
21 of education, the state board for community and technical colleges, the  
22 workforce training and education coordinating board, the higher  
23 education coordinating board, public and private nonprofit four-year  
24 institutions of higher education, and the employment security  
25 department. The education data center shall conduct collaborative  
26 analyses under this section with the legislative evaluation and  
27 accountability program committee and provide data electronically to the  
28 legislative evaluation and accountability program committee, to the  
29 extent permitted by state and federal confidentiality requirements.  
30 The education data center shall be considered an authorized  
31 representative of the state educational agencies in this section under  
32 applicable federal and state statutes for purposes of accessing and  
33 compiling student record data for research purposes.

34 (2) The education data center shall:  
35 (a) In consultation with the legislative evaluation and  
36 accountability program committee and the agencies and organizations

1 participating in the education data center, identify the critical  
2 research and policy questions that are intended to be addressed by the  
3 education data center and the data needed to address the questions;

4 (b) Coordinate with other state education agencies to compile and  
5 analyze education data, including data on student demographics that is  
6 disaggregated by distinct ethnic categories within racial subgroups,  
7 and complete P-20 research projects;

8 (c) Collaborate with the legislative evaluation and accountability  
9 program committee and the education and fiscal committees of the  
10 legislature in identifying the data to be compiled and analyzed to  
11 ensure that legislative interests are served;

12 (d) Annually provide to the K-12 data governance group a list of  
13 data elements and data quality improvements that are necessary to  
14 answer the research and policy questions identified by the education  
15 data center and have been identified by the legislative committees in  
16 (c) of this subsection. Within three months of receiving the list, the  
17 K-12 data governance group shall develop and transmit to the education  
18 data center a feasibility analysis of obtaining or improving the data,  
19 including the steps required, estimated time frame, and the financial  
20 and other resources that would be required. Based on the analysis, the  
21 education data center shall submit, if necessary, a recommendation to  
22 the legislature regarding any statutory changes or resources that would  
23 be needed to collect or improve the data;

24 (e) Monitor and evaluate the education data collection systems of  
25 the organizations and agencies represented in the education data center  
26 ensuring that data systems are flexible, able to adapt to evolving  
27 needs for information, and to the extent feasible and necessary,  
28 include data that are needed to conduct the analyses and provide  
29 answers to the research and policy questions identified in (a) of this  
30 subsection;

31 (f) Track enrollment and outcomes through the public centralized  
32 higher education enrollment system;

33 (g) Track the number of students enrolled in institutions of higher  
34 education as defined in RCW 28B.10.016 who exceed one hundred twenty-  
35 five percent of the credits required to earn their baccalaureate or  
36 applied baccalaureate degree, and report this number to the legislature  
37 annually by December 1st;

1        (h) Assist other state educational agencies' collaborative efforts  
2 to develop a long-range enrollment plan for higher education including  
3 estimates to meet demographic and workforce needs;

4        ~~((h))~~ (i) Provide research that focuses on student transitions  
5 within and among the early learning, K-12, and higher education sectors  
6 in the P-20 system; and

7        ~~((i))~~ (j) Make recommendations to the legislature as necessary to  
8 help ensure the goals and objectives of this section and RCW  
9 28A.655.210 and 28A.300.507 are met.

10        (3) The department of early learning, superintendent of public  
11 instruction, professional educator standards board, state board of  
12 education, state board for community and technical colleges, workforce  
13 training and education coordinating board, higher education  
14 coordinating board, public four-year institutions of higher education,  
15 and employment security department shall work with the education data  
16 center to develop data-sharing and research agreements, consistent with  
17 applicable security and confidentiality requirements, to facilitate the  
18 work of the center. Private, nonprofit institutions of higher  
19 education that provide programs of education beyond the high school  
20 level leading at least to the baccalaureate degree and are accredited  
21 by the Northwest association of schools and colleges or their peer  
22 accreditation bodies may also develop data-sharing and research  
23 agreements with the education data center, consistent with applicable  
24 security and confidentiality requirements. The education data center  
25 shall make data from collaborative analyses available to the education  
26 agencies and institutions that contribute data to the education data  
27 center to the extent allowed by federal and state security and  
28 confidentiality requirements applicable to the data of each  
29 contributing agency or institution.

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