
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1909

State of Washington

62nd Legislature

2011 Regular Session

By House Higher Education (originally sponsored by Representatives Reykdal, Haler, Seaquist, Carlyle, Hasegawa, and Kenney)

READ FIRST TIME 02/17/11.

1 AN ACT Relating to creating a funding mechanism to promote
2 innovation at community and technical colleges; amending RCW 28B.15.031
3 and 28B.15.100; adding a new section to chapter 28B.50 RCW; and
4 creating a new section.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that the community
7 and technical college system mission to ensure affordable access to
8 higher education geographically distributed throughout the state is
9 aligned with innovative approaches to learning and substantial
10 efficiencies that have been implemented since the legislature
11 established the system in 1967. Systemic approaches include a common
12 accounting system, a common administrative computing system, a single
13 system budget request for operating and capital expenses, and common
14 course numbering. Innovative approaches include the system's e-
15 learning platform, the adoption of open educational resources, and the
16 adoption of lecture-capture tools that allow students to replay
17 lectures, review classroom materials, and distribute outstanding
18 instruction via the web anytime, anywhere.

1 (2) It is the intent of the legislature to further enhance the
2 community and technical college system by making the maximum use of
3 technologies to:

4 (a) Help dismantle the barriers of geographic isolation, cost,
5 competing demands of work and family life, and past educational
6 failure;

7 (b) Create a system for learning that is welcoming to all, easy to
8 enter and use, and tailored to the needs of each learner; and

9 (c) Foster personal relationships and support all students and
10 their families to learn and thrive.

11 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28B.15.031 and 2003 c 232 s 2 are each amended to read
12 as follows:

13 (1) The term "operating fees" as used in this chapter shall include
14 the fees, other than building fees, charged all students registering at
15 the state's colleges and universities but shall not include fees for
16 short courses, self-supporting degree credit programs and courses,
17 marine station work, experimental station work, correspondence or
18 extension courses, and individual instruction and student deposits or
19 rentals, disciplinary and library fines, which colleges and
20 universities shall have the right to impose, laboratory, gymnasium,
21 health, technology and student activity fees, or fees, charges,
22 rentals, and other income derived from any or all revenue producing
23 lands, buildings and facilities of the colleges or universities
24 heretofore or hereafter acquired, constructed or installed, including
25 but not limited to income from rooms, dormitories, dining rooms,
26 hospitals, infirmaries, housing or student activity buildings,
27 vehicular parking facilities, land, or the appurtenances thereon, or
28 such other special fees as may be established by any college or
29 university board of trustees or regents from time to time. All moneys
30 received as operating fees at any institution of higher education shall
31 be deposited in a local account containing only operating fees revenue
32 and related interest: PROVIDED, That a minimum of three and one-half
33 percent of operating fees shall be retained by the institutions for the
34 purposes of RCW 28B.15.820.

35 (2) In addition to the three and one-half percent of operating fees
36 retained by the institutions under subsection (1) of this section, up
37 to three percent of operating fees charged to students at community and

1 technical colleges shall be transferred to the community and technical
2 college innovation account for the implementation of the college
3 board's strategic technology plan in section 3 of this act. The
4 percentage to be transferred to the community and technical college
5 innovation account shall be determined by the college board each year
6 but shall not exceed three percent of the operating fees collected each
7 year.

8 (3) Local operating fee accounts shall not be subject to
9 appropriation by the legislature or allotment procedures under chapter
10 43.88 RCW.

11 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. A new section is added to chapter 28B.50 RCW
12 to read as follows:

13 (1) The community and technical college innovation account is
14 created in the custody of the state treasurer. All receipts from
15 operating fees in RCW 28B.15.031(2) must be deposited into the account.
16 Expenditures from the account may be used only as provided in
17 subsection (2) of this section. Only the director of the college board
18 or the director's designee may authorize expenditures from the account.
19 The account is subject to allotment procedures under chapter 43.88 RCW,
20 but an appropriation is not required for expenditures.

21 (2) Funds in the community and technical college innovation account
22 may be used solely to:

23 (a) Pay and secure the payment of the principal of and interest on
24 financing contracts, such as certificates of participation issued for
25 the innovation account under chapter 39.94 RCW and authorized by the
26 legislature; and

27 (b) Implement the college board's strategic technology plan to
28 improve student achievement, student services, and increase systemwide
29 administrative efficiencies. The college board must approve projects
30 under the strategic technology plan to improve student achievement,
31 student services, and increase systemwide administrative efficiencies
32 before the director authorizes expenditures to be made.

33 **Sec. 4.** RCW 28B.15.100 and 2003 c 232 s 6 are each amended to read
34 as follows:

35 (1) The governing boards of the state universities, the regional
36 universities, The Evergreen State College, and the community colleges

1 shall charge to and collect from each of the students registering at
2 the particular institution for any quarter or semester such tuition
3 fees and services and activities fees, and other fees as such board
4 shall in its discretion determine. For the governing boards of the
5 state universities, the regional universities, and The Evergreen State
6 College, the total of all fees shall be rounded to the nearest whole
7 dollar amount: PROVIDED, That such tuition fees shall be established
8 in accordance with RCW 28B.15.067.

9 (2) Part-time students shall be charged tuition and services and
10 activities fees proportionate to full-time student rates established
11 for residents and nonresidents: PROVIDED, That except for students
12 registered at community colleges, students registered for fewer than
13 two credit hours shall be charged tuition and services and activities
14 fees at the rate established for two credit hours: PROVIDED FURTHER,
15 That, subject to the limitations of RCW 28B.15.910, residents of Idaho
16 or Oregon who are enrolled in community college district number twenty
17 for six or fewer credits during any quarter or semester may be exempted
18 from payment of all or a portion of the nonresident tuition fees
19 differential upon a declaration by the higher education coordinating
20 board that it finds Washington residents from the community college
21 district are afforded substantially equivalent treatment by such other
22 states.

23 (3) Full-time students registered for more than eighteen credit
24 hours shall be charged an additional operating fee for each credit hour
25 in excess of eighteen hours at the applicable established per credit
26 hour tuition fee rate for part-time students: PROVIDED, That, subject
27 to the limitations of RCW 28B.15.910, the governing boards of the state
28 universities and the community colleges may exempt all or a portion of
29 the additional charge, for students who are registered exclusively in
30 first professional programs in medicine, dental medicine, veterinary
31 medicine, doctor of pharmacy, or law, or who are registered exclusively
32 in required courses in vocational preparatory programs.

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