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HOUSE BILL 2258

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State of Washington                      62nd Legislature                      2012 Regular Session

By Representatives Zeiger, Probst, Haler, Reykdal, Seaquist, Hasegawa, Fagan, Wilcox, Moeller, Ryu, and Kenney

Read first time 01/10/12. Referred to Committee on Higher Education.

1            AN ACT Relating to an online higher education transfer and student  
2            advising system; and adding a new section to chapter 28B.76 RCW.

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

4            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.76 RCW  
5            to read as follows:

6            (1) The higher education coordinating board or its successor  
7            agency, in conjunction with the state board for community and technical  
8            colleges, the workforce training and education coordinating board, and  
9            the four-year institutions of higher education shall establish and  
10           maintain a statewide online transfer and student advising system that  
11           integrates information related to programs, advising, registration,  
12           admissions, and transfer. The system must be easily accessible to all  
13           Washington high school students and their parents or guardians, higher  
14           education students, faculty, counselors, advisors, and other  
15           professional staff. The purpose of the system is to:

16           (a) Assist students to access higher education program information  
17           easily and speed completion of their education programs by clarifying  
18           and simplifying the process for researching programs, resources, and  
19           transferability of courses; and

1 (b) Improve efficiency of service delivery to students for  
2 institutions of higher education.

3 (2) The online transfer and student advising system must:

4 (a) Integrate with web sites maintained by the higher education  
5 coordinating board or its successor agency, the state board for  
6 community and technical colleges, the workforce training and education  
7 coordinating board, institutions of higher education, and other web  
8 sites to provide an inventory of postsecondary degrees and certificates  
9 available in the state, including online options; and outline  
10 educational requirements for various occupations, including labor  
11 market information;

12 (b) Specify educational requirements, admissions requirements, and  
13 prerequisites for all postsecondary programs;

14 (c) Identify course options that meet the requirements of a  
15 selected path toward a degree or certificate;

16 (d) Provide registration and admissions information for  
17 institutions of higher education;

18 (e) Provide a method for students to assess which courses and  
19 programs are transferrable from one institution of higher education to  
20 another; and which programs will transfer with credit towards  
21 completion of their chosen degree or certificate; and

22 (f) Provide information regarding student financial aid and other  
23 services that assist students to research, access, and complete degrees  
24 and certificates.

25 (3) The higher education coordinating board or its successor  
26 agency, the state board for community and technical colleges, the  
27 workforce training and education coordinating board, and the four-year  
28 institutions of higher education shall sign a memorandum of  
29 understanding that specifies roles and responsibilities regarding the  
30 design, implementation, promotion, development, maintenance, and  
31 analysis of the effectiveness of the online transfer and student  
32 advising system.

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