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SENATE BILL 5572

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State of Washington

62nd Legislature

2011 Regular Session

By Senators Kilmer, Becker, Shin, Haugen, Hobbs, and Conway

Read first time 01/31/11. Referred to Committee on Higher Education & Workforce Development.

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

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.600.310 and 2009 c 450 s 8 are each amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 (1) Eleventh and twelfth grade students or students who have not  
7 yet received the credits required for the award of a high school  
8 diploma and are eligible to be in the eleventh or twelfth grades may  
9 apply to a participating institution of higher education to enroll in  
10 courses or programs offered by the institution of higher education. A  
11 student receiving home-based instruction enrolling in a public high  
12 school for the sole purpose of participating in courses or programs  
13 offered by institutions of higher education shall not be counted by the  
14 school district in any required state or federal accountability  
15 reporting if the student's parents or guardians filed a declaration of  
16 intent to provide home-based instruction and the student received home-  
17 based instruction during the school year before the school year in  
18 which the student intends to participate in courses or programs offered  
19 by the institution of higher education. Students receiving home-based

1 instruction under chapter 28A.200 RCW and students attending private  
2 schools approved under chapter 28A.195 RCW shall not be required to  
3 meet the student learning goals, obtain a certificate of academic  
4 achievement or a certificate of individual achievement to graduate from  
5 high school, or to master the essential academic learning requirements.  
6 However, students are eligible to enroll in courses or programs in  
7 participating universities only if the board of directors of the  
8 student's school district has decided to participate in the program.  
9 Participating institutions of higher education, in consultation with  
10 school districts, may establish admission standards for these students.  
11 An institution of higher education may establish policies limiting the  
12 number of running start students accepted for enrollment or in a  
13 specific program of study at that institution. If the institution of  
14 higher education accepts a secondary school pupil for enrollment under  
15 this section, the institution of higher education shall send written  
16 notice to the pupil and the pupil's school district within ten days of  
17 acceptance. The notice shall indicate the course and hours of  
18 enrollment for that pupil.

19 (2) In lieu of tuition and fees, as defined in RCW 28B.15.020 and  
20 28B.15.041, running start students shall pay to the community or  
21 technical college all other mandatory fees as established by each  
22 community or technical college; and all other institutions of higher  
23 education operating a running start program may charge technology fees.  
24 The fees charged shall be prorated based on credit load.

25 (3) The institutions of higher education must make available fee  
26 waivers for low-income running start students. Each institution must  
27 establish a written policy for the determination of low-income students  
28 before offering the fee waiver. A student shall be considered low  
29 income and eligible for a fee waiver upon proof that the student is  
30 currently qualified to receive free or reduced-price lunch. Acceptable  
31 documentation of low-income status may also include, but is not limited  
32 to, documentation that a student has been deemed eligible for free or  
33 reduced-price lunches in the last five years, or other criteria  
34 established in the institution's policy.

35 (4) The pupil's school district shall transmit to the institution  
36 of higher education an amount per each full-time equivalent college  
37 student at statewide uniform rates for vocational and nonvocational  
38 students. The superintendent of public instruction shall separately

1 calculate and allocate moneys appropriated for basic education under  
2 RCW 28A.150.260 to school districts for purposes of making such  
3 payments and for granting school districts seven percent thereof to  
4 offset program related costs. The calculations and allocations shall  
5 be based upon the estimated statewide annual average per full-time  
6 equivalent high school student allocations under RCW 28A.150.260,  
7 excluding small high school enhancements, and applicable rules adopted  
8 under chapter 34.05 RCW. The superintendent of public instruction, the  
9 higher education coordinating board, and the state board for community  
10 and technical colleges shall consult on the calculation and  
11 distribution of the funds. The funds received by the institution of  
12 higher education from the school district shall not be deemed tuition  
13 or operating fees and may be retained by the institution of higher  
14 education. A student enrolled under this subsection shall be counted  
15 for the purpose of meeting enrollment targets in accordance with terms  
16 and conditions specified in the omnibus appropriations act.

17 (5) The state board for community and technical colleges, in  
18 collaboration with the other institutions of higher education that  
19 participate in the running start program and the office of the  
20 superintendent of public instruction, shall identify, assess, and  
21 report on alternatives for providing ongoing and adequate financial  
22 support for the program. Such alternatives shall include but are not  
23 limited to student tuition, increased support from local school  
24 districts, and reallocation of existing state financial support among  
25 the community and technical college system to account for differential  
26 running start enrollment levels and impacts. The state board for  
27 community and technical colleges shall report the assessment of  
28 alternatives to the governor and to the appropriate fiscal and policy  
29 committees of the legislature by September 1, 2010.

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