
SENATE BILL 6438

State of Washington

62nd Legislature

2012 Regular Session

By Senator Stevens

Read first time 01/23/12. Referred to Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to remedial postsecondary education; reenacting and
2 amending RCW 28A.225.220; adding new sections to chapter 28B.10 RCW;
3 adding a new section to chapter 28A.300 RCW; adding a new section to
4 chapter 28B.15 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that some students who
7 have recently graduated from high school must immediately enroll in one
8 or more remedial or precollege classes at Washington's public colleges
9 and universities before they can proceed successfully through college.
10 The legislature also finds that these students should have received
11 basic skills in English, reading, spelling, grammar, study skills, and
12 mathematics before graduating from high school. It is further the
13 intent of the legislature that the school districts from which these
14 students received their high school diplomas either provide remedial
15 education for recent high school graduates or pay the cost of providing
16 state-supported remedial classes for those students.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) By June 1st of each year, each state
18 university, regional university, state college, and the state board for

1 community and technical colleges shall provide a report to the office
2 of the superintendent of public instruction. The report shall contain
3 the following information: (a) The number of students who, within
4 three years of high school graduation, enrolled at the institution of
5 higher education or at a community college or technical college in a
6 state-supported precollege level class or laboratory in study skills,
7 mathematics including intermediate algebra, reading, grammar, spelling,
8 writing, or English; (b) the types of precollege classes in which each
9 student is enrolled; and (c) the Washington high school from which each
10 student graduated.

11 (2) Each institution of higher education shall report the
12 information required in subsection (1) of this section to the
13 Washington school district from which each student graduated.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) By June 30th of each even-numbered year,
15 the state board for community and technical colleges shall establish
16 and report to the superintendent of public instruction an average per-
17 student instructional cost for state-supported developmental and
18 precollege classes and laboratories offered in the community and
19 technical colleges. The classes shall include, but need not be limited
20 to precollege classes in study skills, mathematics including
21 intermediate algebra, grammar, reading, spelling, writing, and English.
22 English as a second language classes shall not be included.

23 (2) By June 30th of each even-numbered year, each of the state
24 universities, regional universities, and the state college shall report
25 to the office of the superintendent of public instruction with the
26 average per-student instructional cost for state-supported precollege
27 classes offered by that institution in study skills, mathematics
28 including intermediate algebra, English, writing, spelling, grammar,
29 and reading. English as a second language classes shall not be
30 included.

31 (3) "State-supported" means that the precollege class or laboratory
32 is supported in whole or in part by money from the state general fund
33 or student operating fees.

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** Beginning with the fall 2012 academic term,
35 a charge shall be assessed to each Washington school district that,
36 within the three years preceding the report required in section 2 of

1 this act, graduated a student attending any state-supported precollege
2 class or laboratory in study skills, English, reading, spelling,
3 grammar, or mathematics including intermediate algebra offered at a
4 Washington institution of higher education. Beginning with the 2015
5 fiscal year, the superintendent of public instruction shall subtract
6 from the allotment of each such school district an amount equal to the
7 average per-student instructional cost of each state-supported
8 precollege class attended during the preceding fiscal year by each
9 student who graduated from that school district during the preceding
10 three years and who subsequently enrolled in a state-supported
11 precollege class at an institution of higher education. As used in
12 this section, "state-supported" means that the class is supported in
13 whole or in part with either state general fund money or with student
14 operating fees. Funding shall first be reduced from nonbasic education
15 funds, unless otherwise requested by the affected school district.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** (1) Once an institution of higher education
17 has determined that a student who has graduated within the preceding
18 three years needs to improve his or her competency in material that is
19 determined by the institution of higher education to be precollege
20 material, the institution shall notify the Washington school district
21 that granted to the student a high school diploma.

22 (2) The school district may either provide the needed instruction
23 in a timely manner, or the district may pay the charges assessed in
24 section 4 of this act. If the school district provides the
25 instruction, it shall not charge tuition to the student. If the
26 institution of higher education that the student attends is located
27 more than thirty miles from the school district that granted the
28 student's high school diploma, the student shall be permitted to
29 receive the instruction from either the institution of higher education
30 or from another provider, including a local school district, that is
31 approved by the institution.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.300
33 RCW to read as follows:

34 The superintendent of public instruction shall reimburse
35 institutions of higher education as defined in RCW 28B.10.016 that,

1 pursuant to section 4 of this act, provide instruction in precollege
2 material.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.15 RCW
4 to read as follows:

5 Subject to the limitations of RCW 28B.15.910, the governing boards
6 of each of the colleges and universities shall waive tuition fees for
7 precollege classes taken by any student who has graduated from a high
8 school in the state of Washington within three years immediately
9 preceding the student's enrollment in those precollege classes.

10 **Sec. 8.** RCW 28A.225.220 and 1995 c 335 s 602 and 1995 c 52 s 2 are
11 each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

12 (1) Any board of directors may make agreements with adults choosing
13 to attend school, and with the exception of students attending under
14 section 5 of this act, may charge the adults reasonable tuition.

15 (2) A district is strongly encouraged to honor the request of a
16 parent or guardian for his or her child to attend a school in another
17 district or the request of a parent or guardian for his or her child to
18 transfer as a student receiving home-based instruction.

19 (3) A district shall release a student to a nonresident district
20 that agrees to accept the student if:

21 (a) A financial, educational, safety, or health condition affecting
22 the student would likely be reasonably improved as a result of the
23 transfer; or

24 (b) Attendance at the school in the nonresident district is more
25 accessible to the parent's place of work or to the location of child
26 care; or

27 (c) There is a special hardship or detrimental condition.

28 (4) A district may deny the request of a resident student to
29 transfer to a nonresident district if the release of the student would
30 adversely affect the district's existing desegregation plan.

31 (5) For the purpose of helping a district assess the quality of its
32 education program, a resident school district may request an optional
33 exit interview or questionnaire with the parents or guardians of a
34 child transferring to another district. No parent or guardian may be
35 forced to attend such an interview or complete the questionnaire.

1 (6) Beginning with the 1993-94 school year, school districts may
2 not charge transfer fees or tuition for nonresident students enrolled
3 under subsection (3) of this section and RCW 28A.225.225.
4 Reimbursement of a high school district for cost of educating high
5 school pupils of a nonhigh school district shall not be deemed a
6 transfer fee as affecting the apportionment of current state school
7 funds.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** Sections 2 through 5 of this act are each
9 added to chapter 28B.10 RCW.

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