

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT
SECOND SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5636

62nd Legislature
2011 Regular Session

Passed by the Senate April 21, 2011
YEAS 38 NAYS 10

President of the Senate

Passed by the House April 9, 2011
YEAS 66 NAYS 31

Speaker of the House of Representatives

Approved

Governor of the State of Washington

CERTIFICATE

I, Thomas Hoemann, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SECOND SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5636** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

Secretary

FILED

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

SECOND SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5636

AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

Passed Legislature - 2011 Regular Session

State of Washington 62nd Legislature 2011 Regular Session

By Senate Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Senators Haugen, Harper, Shin, and Delvin)

READ FIRST TIME 02/25/11.

1 AN ACT Relating to expanding opportunities in higher education in
2 north Puget Sound; amending RCW 28B.50.795; adding a new section to
3 chapter 28B.30 RCW; repealing RCW 28B.50.901; and providing a
4 contingent effective date.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.30 RCW
7 to read as follows:

8 (1) The legislature finds that access to baccalaureate and graduate
9 degree programs continues to be limited for residents of north
10 Snohomish, Island, and Skagit counties. Studies conducted by the state
11 board for community and technical colleges, the higher education
12 coordinating board, and the council of presidents confirm that
13 enrollment in higher education compared to demand in this geographic
14 region lags behind enrollment in other parts of the state, particularly
15 for upper-division courses leading to advanced degrees.

16 (2) The legislature also finds that access to high employer demand
17 programs of study is imperative for the state's global competitiveness
18 and economic prosperity, particularly those degrees in the science,
19 technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields that align with

1 the workforce skill demands of the regional economy, that support the
2 aerospace industry, and provide skilled undergraduate and
3 graduate-degree engineers required by the largest employers in the
4 aerospace industry cluster.

5 (3) The legislature finds that meeting the long-range goal of
6 greatly expanded access for the population of the region to the widest
7 array of baccalaureate and graduate programs can best be accomplished
8 by assigning responsibility to a research university with multiple
9 experiences in similar settings.

10 (4) Management and leadership of the University Center of North
11 Puget Sound is assigned to Washington State University to meet the
12 needs of the Everett metropolitan area and the north Snohomish, Island,
13 and Skagit county region and the state of Washington for baccalaureate
14 and graduate degrees offered by a state university. The chief
15 executive officer of the University Center of North Puget Sound is the
16 director who reports to the president of Washington State University.
17 The director shall manage the activities and logistics of operating the
18 center, make policy and planning recommendations to the council in
19 subsection (5) of this section, and implement decisions of the council.

20 (5)(a) Washington State University and Everett Community College
21 must collaborate with community leaders, and other four-year
22 institutions of higher education that offer programs at the University
23 Center of North Puget Sound to serve the varied interests of students
24 in the region. To this end, a coordinating and planning council must
25 be established to be responsible for long-range and strategic planning,
26 interinstitutional collaboration, collaboration with the community
27 served, and dispute resolution for the center. The following
28 individuals shall comprise the coordinating and planning council:

29 (i) The president of Washington State University, or his or her
30 designee;

31 (ii) The provost of Washington State University, or his or her
32 designee;

33 (iii) The president of Everett Community College;

34 (iv) Two representatives of two other institutions of higher
35 education that offer baccalaureate or graduate degree programs at the
36 center;

37 (v) A student enrolled at the University Center of North Puget
38 Sound appointed by the coordinating and planning council;

1 (vi) The director of the council, as the nonvoting chair;

2 (vii) A community leader appointed by the president of Everett
3 Community College; and

4 (viii) A community leader appointed by the mayor of Everett.

5 (b) The coordinating and planning council may appoint other groups,
6 as appropriate, to advise on administration and operations, and may
7 alter its own composition by agreement of all the members.

8 (6)(a) Washington State University shall assume leadership of the
9 center upon completion and approval by the legislature as provided
10 under (d) of this subsection of a strategic plan for meeting the
11 academic needs of the region and successful establishment of an
12 engineering degree program. The strategic plan must build on the
13 strengths of the institutions, reflecting each institution's mission,
14 in order to provide the region with the highest standard of educational
15 programs, research, and service to the community. The strategic plan
16 must include a multibiennium budget that addresses both operating and
17 capital expenses required to effectively implement the plan. The
18 strategic plan shall be developed with the collaboration of the
19 University Center at Everett Community College and all the institutions
20 of higher education that provide baccalaureate degrees at the
21 University Center, and community leaders.

22 (b) Center partners must implement the strategic plan with careful
23 attention to the academic and professional standards established and
24 maintained by each institution and by the appropriate accrediting
25 bodies, and to the historic role of each institution's governing board
26 in setting policy.

27 (c) The strategic plan must address expansion of the range and
28 depth of educational opportunities in the region and include strategies
29 that:

30 (i) Build upon baccalaureate and graduate degree offerings at the
31 center;

32 (ii) Meet projected student enrollment demands for baccalaureate,
33 graduate, and certificate programs in the region;

34 (iii) Meet employers' needs for skilled workers by expanding high
35 employer demand programs of study as defined in RCW 28B.50.030, with an
36 initial and ongoing emphasis by Washington State University on
37 undergraduate and graduate science, technology, mathematics, and

1 engineering degree programs, including a variety of engineering
2 disciplines such as civil, mechanical, aeronautical, and aerospace
3 manufacturing;

4 (iv) Coordinate delivery of lower and upper division courses to
5 maximize student opportunities and resources; and

6 (v) Transfer budget support and resources for the center from
7 Everett Community College to Washington State University.

8 (d) The strategic plan must be completed by December 1, 2012, and
9 submitted to the legislature for review. The strategic plan shall be
10 considered approved if the legislature does not take further action on
11 the strategic plan during the 2013 legislative session. The transfer
12 of the responsibility for the management and operation of the
13 University Center of North Puget Sound to Washington State University
14 must occur by July 1, 2014.

15 (7)(a) Academic programming and delivery at the center must be
16 developed in accordance with the missions of Washington State
17 University, Everett Community College, and other institutions of higher
18 education that have a presence at the center.

19 (b) Each institution shall abide by the guidelines for university
20 centers adopted by the higher education coordinating board.

21 (c) Each institution shall award all degrees and certificates
22 granted in the programs it delivers at the center.

23 (d) The coordinating council described in subsection (5) of this
24 section shall establish a process for prioritizing new programs and
25 revising existing programs that facilitates timeliness of new
26 offerings, recognizes the internal processes of the proposing
27 institutions, and addresses each proposal's fit with the needs of the
28 region.

29 (8)(a) Washington State University shall review center expansion
30 needs and consider capital facilities funding at least annually.
31 Washington State University and Everett Community College must
32 cooperate in preparing funding requests and bond financing for
33 submission to the legislature on behalf of development at the center,
34 in accordance with each institution's process and priorities for
35 advancing legislative requests.

36 (b) Washington State University shall design, construct, and manage
37 any facility developed at the center. Any facility developed at the
38 center with Everett Community College capital funding must be designed

1 by Everett Community College in consultation with Washington State
2 University. Building construction may be managed by Washington State
3 University via an interagency agreement which details responsibility
4 and associated costs. Building operations and management for all
5 facilities at the center must be governed by the infrastructure and
6 operating cost allocation method described in subsection (9) of this
7 section.

8 (9) Washington State University has responsibility for
9 infrastructure development and maintenance for the center. All
10 infrastructure operating and maintenance costs are to be shared in what
11 is deemed to be an equitable and fair manner based on space allocation,
12 special cost, and other relevant considerations. Washington State
13 University may make infrastructure development and maintenance
14 decisions in consultation with the council described in subsection (5)
15 of this section.

16 (10) In the event that conflict cannot be resolved through the
17 coordinating council described in subsection (5) of this section the
18 higher education coordinating board dispute resolution must be
19 employed.

20 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28B.50.795 and 2010 1st sp.s. c 25 s 1 are each
21 amended to read as follows:

22 (1) ~~((RCW 28B.50.901 assigns responsibility for the north
23 Snohomish, Island, and Skagit counties' higher education consortium to
24 Everett Community College. In April of 2009, Everett Community College
25 opened Gray Wolf Hall, the new home of the University Center of North
26 Puget Sound. The University Center currently offers over twenty
27 bachelor's and master's degrees from six partner universities.~~

28 ~~(2))~~ Although Everett Community College offers an associate degree
29 nursing program that graduates approximately seventy to ninety students
30 per year, the University Center does not offer a bachelor of science in
31 nursing. Some graduates of the Everett Community College program are
32 able to articulate to the bachelor of science in nursing program
33 offered by the University of Washington-Bothell at its Bothell campus
34 or in Mt. Vernon but current capacity is not sufficient for all of the
35 graduates who are both interested and qualified.

36 ~~((3))~~ (2) Despite recent growth in nursing education capacity,
37 shortages still persist for registered nurses. According to a June

1 2007 study by the Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana, and Idaho
2 center for health workforce studies, the average age of Washington's
3 registered nurses was forty-eight years. More than a third were fifty-
4 five years of age or older. Consequently, the high rate of registered
5 nurses retiring from nursing practice over the next two decades will
6 significantly reduce the supply. This reduction comes at the same time
7 as the state's population grows and ages. The registered nurse
8 education capacity in Washington has a large impact on the supply of
9 registered nurses in the state. If the rate of graduation in
10 registered nursing does not increase, projections show that supply in
11 Washington will begin to decline by 2015. In contrast, if graduation
12 rates increased by four hundred per year, the supply of registered
13 nurses would meet estimated demand by the year 2021.

14 ((+4)) (3) Subject to specific funding to support up to fifty
15 full-time equivalent students in a bachelor of nursing program, the
16 University Center ((at Everett Community College)) of North Puget
17 Sound, in partnership with the University of Washington-Bothell, shall
18 offer a bachelor of science in nursing program with capacity for up to
19 fifty full-time students.

20 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. (1) This act takes effect only after the
21 higher education coordinating board determines whether a needs
22 assessment and analysis is required and, if so, conducts a needs
23 assessment and viability determination under RCW 28B.76.230 and
24 recommends that the provisions in section 1 of this act occur.

25 (2) The higher education coordinating board must make a
26 recommendation under subsection (1) of this section by July 1, 2012.

27 (3) The higher education coordinating board shall notify the office
28 of financial management, the legislature, and the code reviser's office
29 of the board's recommendations regarding the provisions in section 1 of
30 this act.

31 NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. RCW 28B.50.901 (Regional higher education
32 consortium management and leadership--Everett Community College--
33 Educational plan) and 2005 c 258 s 13 are each repealed.

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