

SENATE BILL REPORT

HB 1961

As Reported by Senate Committee On:
Higher Education, March 26, 2015

Title: An act relating to decodifying, expiring, and making nonsubstantive changes to community and technical college provisions.

Brief Description: Decodifying, expiring, and making nonsubstantive changes to community and technical college provisions.

Sponsors: Representatives Zeiger, Reykdal and Sells; by request of State Board for Community and Technical Colleges.

Brief History: Passed House: 3/02/15, 97-0.

Committee Activity: Higher Education: 3/24/15, 3/26/15 [DP].

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

Majority Report: Do pass.

Signed by Senators Bailey, Chair; Kohl-Welles, Ranking Minority Member; Becker, Frockt, Lias and Miloscia.

Staff: Evan Klein (786-7483)

Background: There are 34 community and technical colleges in Washington which are governed by the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (State Board). The State Board is governed by a nine-member board responsible for administering the Community and Technical College Act and providing leadership and coordination for Washington's public community and technical colleges. Community and technical colleges in Washington State are governed by title 28B of the Revised Code of Washington.

Summary of Bill: Certain statutes pertaining to general obligation bonds that were issued for higher education capital projects that have matured are decodified.

An expiration date of August 1, 2015, is provided for the following provisions:

- the Displaced Homemaker Act;
- the Project Even Start program;
- certain statutes for technical colleges and the Seattle Vocational Institution to collect tuition and fees as per their standard operating procedure;

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- the Educational Assistance Grant;
- the naming of vocational-technical institutes, their districts, and providing for boards of trustees;
- certain statutes pertaining to the transfer of vocational-technical institutes from the common school system to the higher education system;
- the Opportunity Express website; and
- the High School Completion Pilot program.

Authorization of tuition waivers for recipients of the Washington Scholars Program scholarship pertaining to the period prior to 1994 are removed.

A technical clarification is made to certain statutes to add the term technical college to references to community college throughout the title.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Committee/Commission/Task Force Created: No.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

Staff Summary of Public Testimony: PRO: This bill is technical in nature and will help clean up our laws. This expires old statutes, cleans up provisions, adds technical colleges to existing provisions, and helps Washington's community and technical colleges.

Persons Testifying: PRO: Representative Zeiger, prime sponsor; Alison Grazzini, State Board for Community and Technical Colleges.

Persons Signed in to Testify But Not Testifying: No one.