
HOUSE BILL 1988

State of Washington

64th Legislature

2015 Regular Session

By Representatives Goodman, Pollet, Wylie, Stanford, Tharinger, Takko, Blake, Fitzgibbon, Tarleton, Orwall, Fey, Sells, Kilduff, Farrell, Jenkins, and Ortiz-Self

Read first time 02/05/15. Referred to Committee on Higher Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to freezing resident undergraduate tuition at the
2 four-year institutions of higher education; and amending RCW
3 28B.15.067.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28B.15.067 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 4 s 958 are each
6 amended to read as follows:

7 (1) Tuition fees shall be established under the provisions of
8 this chapter.

9 (2)(a) Beginning in the 2011-12 academic year, reductions or
10 increases in full-time tuition fees shall be as provided in the
11 omnibus appropriations act for resident undergraduate students at
12 community and technical colleges. The (~~governing boards of the state~~
13 ~~universities, regional universities, and The Evergreen State College;~~
14 ~~and the~~) state board for community and technical colleges may reduce
15 or increase full-time tuition fees for all students other than
16 resident undergraduates, including nonresident students, summer
17 school students, and students in other self-supporting degree
18 programs. Percentage increases in full-time tuition may exceed the
19 fiscal growth factor. Except during the 2013-2015 fiscal biennium,
20 the state board for community and technical colleges may pilot or

1 institute differential tuition models. The board may define scale,
2 scope, and rationale for the models.

3 (b) Prior to reducing or increasing tuition for each academic
4 year, the state board for community and technical college system
5 shall consult with existing student associations or organizations
6 with undergraduate student representation regarding the impacts of
7 potential tuition increases. The state board for community and
8 technical colleges shall provide data regarding the percentage of
9 students receiving financial aid, the sources of aid, and the
10 percentage of total costs of attendance paid for by aid.

11 (3)(a) Beginning with the 2011-12 academic year and through the
12 end of the 2014-15 academic year, the governing boards of the state
13 universities, the regional universities, and The Evergreen State
14 College may reduce or increase full-time tuition fees for all
15 students, including summer school students and students in other
16 self-supporting degree programs. Percentage increases in full-time
17 tuition fees may exceed the fiscal growth factor. Reductions or
18 increases may be made for all or portions of an institution's
19 programs, campuses, courses, or students; however, during the
20 2013-2015 fiscal biennium, reductions or increases in tuition must be
21 uniform among resident undergraduate students.

22 ~~(b) ((Prior to reducing or increasing tuition for each academic~~
23 ~~year, the governing boards of the state universities, the regional~~
24 ~~universities, and The Evergreen State College shall consult with~~
25 ~~existing student associations or organizations with student~~
26 ~~undergraduate and graduate representatives regarding the impacts of~~
27 ~~potential tuition increases. Each governing board shall make public~~
28 ~~its proposal for tuition and fee increases twenty one days before the~~
29 ~~governing board of the institution considers adoption and allow~~
30 ~~opportunity for public comment. However, the requirement to make~~
31 ~~public a proposal for tuition and fee increases twenty one days~~
32 ~~before the governing board considers adoption shall not apply if the~~
33 ~~omnibus appropriations act has not passed the legislature by May~~
34 ~~15th. Governing boards shall be required to provide data regarding~~
35 ~~the percentage of students receiving financial aid, the sources of~~
36 ~~aid, and the percentage of total costs of attendance paid for by aid.~~

37 ~~(c) Prior to reducing or increasing tuition for each academic~~
38 ~~year, the state board for community and technical college system~~
39 ~~shall consult with existing student associations or organizations~~
40 ~~with undergraduate student representation regarding the impacts of~~

1 ~~potential tuition increases. The state board for community and~~
2 ~~technical colleges shall provide data regarding the percentage of~~
3 ~~students receiving financial aid, the sources of aid, and the~~
4 ~~percentage of total costs of attendance paid for by aid.~~

5 ~~(4))~~ (i) Beginning with the 2015-16 academic year through the
6 2018-19 academic year, the governing boards of the state
7 universities, regional universities, and The Evergreen State College
8 may set tuition for resident undergraduates as follows:

9 ~~((a))~~ (A) If state funding for a college or university falls
10 below the state funding provided in the operating budget for fiscal
11 year 2011, the governing board may increase tuition up to the limits
12 set in ~~((d))~~ (b)(i)(D) of this subsection, reduce enrollments, or
13 both;

14 ~~((b))~~ (B) If state funding for a college or university is at
15 least at the level of state funding provided in the operating budget
16 for fiscal year 2011, the governing board may increase tuition up to
17 the limits set in ~~((d))~~ (b)(i)(D) of this subsection and shall
18 continue to at least maintain the actual enrollment levels for fiscal
19 year 2011 or increase enrollments as required in the omnibus
20 appropriations act;

21 ~~((c))~~ (C) If state funding is increased so that combined with
22 resident undergraduate tuition the sixtieth percentile of the total
23 per-student funding at similar public institutions of higher
24 education in the global challenge states under RCW 28B.15.068 is
25 exceeded, the governing board shall decrease tuition by the amount
26 needed for the total per-student funding to be at the sixtieth
27 percentile under RCW 28B.15.068; and

28 ~~((d))~~ (D) The amount of tuition set by the governing board for
29 an institution under this subsection ~~((4))~~ (3)(b)(i) may not exceed
30 the sixtieth percentile of the resident undergraduate tuition of
31 similar public institutions of higher education in the global
32 challenge states.

33 ~~((5))~~ (ii) Beginning with the 2015-16 academic year and subject
34 to funds specifically appropriated to fully offset any revenue
35 forgone by the institutions under this subsection, the state
36 universities, regional universities, and The Evergreen State College
37 shall not increase full-time tuition fees for a resident
38 undergraduate student above the level that the student paid during
39 his or her initial year of enrollment for the amount of time normally
40 required for a full-time student to complete the student's degree

1 requirements as determined by the institution, plus one additional
2 term, from the date of the student's initial enrollment in the
3 institution. Students must maintain full-time status and be
4 continuously enrolled, with the exception of summer term, to be
5 eligible for the tuition provisions in this subsection. Institutions
6 subject to this subsection may not implement differential tuition for
7 resident undergraduate students affected by this subsection.

8 (iii) Beginning in the 2019-20 academic year, reductions or
9 increases in full-time tuition fees for resident undergraduates at
10 four-year institutions of higher education shall be as provided in
11 the omnibus appropriations act.

12 (c) Prior to reducing or increasing tuition for each academic
13 year, the governing boards of the state universities, the regional
14 universities, and The Evergreen State College shall consult with
15 existing student associations or organizations with student
16 undergraduate and graduate representatives regarding the impacts of
17 potential tuition increases. Each governing board shall make public
18 its proposal for tuition and fee increases twenty-one days before the
19 governing board of the institution considers adoption and allow
20 opportunity for public comment. However, the requirement to make
21 public a proposal for tuition and fee increases twenty-one days
22 before the governing board considers adoption shall not apply if the
23 omnibus appropriations act has not passed the legislature by May
24 15th. Governing boards must provide data regarding the percentage of
25 students receiving financial aid, the sources of aid, and the
26 percentage of total costs of attendance paid for by aid.

27 (4) The tuition fees established under this chapter shall not
28 apply to high school students enrolling in participating institutions
29 of higher education under RCW 28A.600.300 through 28A.600.400.

30 ~~((+6))~~ (5) The tuition fees established under this chapter shall
31 not apply to eligible students enrolling in a dropout reengagement
32 program through an interlocal agreement between a school district and
33 a community or technical college under RCW 28A.175.100 through
34 28A.175.110.

35 ~~((+7))~~ (6) The tuition fees established under this chapter shall
36 not apply to eligible students enrolling in a community or technical
37 college participating in the pilot program under RCW 28B.50.534 for
38 the purpose of obtaining a high school diploma.

39 ~~((+8) Beginning in the 2019-20 academic year, reductions or~~
40 ~~increases in full-time tuition fees for resident undergraduates at~~

1 ~~four-year institutions of higher education shall be as provided in~~
2 ~~the omnibus appropriations act.~~

3 ~~(9) The legislative advisory committee to the committee on~~
4 ~~advanced tuition payment established in RCW 28B.95.170 shall:~~

5 ~~(a) Review the impact of differential tuition rates on the funded~~
6 ~~status and future unit price of the Washington advanced college~~
7 ~~tuition payment program; and~~

8 ~~(b) No later than January 14, 2013, make a recommendation to the~~
9 ~~appropriate policy and fiscal committees of the legislature regarding~~
10 ~~how differential tuition should be addressed in order to maintain the~~
11 ~~ongoing solvency of the Washington advanced college tuition payment~~
12 ~~program.))~~

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