
HOUSE BILL 2796

State of Washington

64th Legislature

2016 Regular Session

By Representatives Van Werven, Lytton, Stambaugh, Bergquist, Hargrove, Haler, Zeiger, Kilduff, Young, Stanford, Buys, Wilson, and Tarleton

Read first time 01/20/16. Referred to Committee on Higher Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to providing students with the costs of required
2 course materials during registration; adding a new section to chapter
3 28B.50 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature recognizes the high cost
6 of textbooks and the burden this can create for students, with the
7 average student spending around twelve hundred dollars on textbooks a
8 year. The legislature also recognizes the work of the state board for
9 community and technical colleges in creating the open course library,
10 in which free textbooks and other course materials are available for
11 eighty-one of the highest enrolled courses in the community and
12 technical college system. The student public interest research groups
13 completed a cost analysis of the open course library and found that
14 students who take open course library courses save ninety-six dollars
15 on average per course over a traditional textbook. Therefore, it is
16 the legislature's intent to incentivize faculty to use resources
17 available on the open course library by informing students of a
18 textbook's cost when they register for a class.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.50
20 RCW to read as follows:

1 The community and technical colleges shall indicate the cost of
2 any required textbook or other course material to students in the
3 course description during the registration process.

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