

SB 6264 - H COMM AMD

By Committee on Labor & Workplace Standards

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 50.44
4 RCW to read as follows:

5 (1) An institution of higher education, as defined in RCW
6 28B.10.016, may not contract with a private entity to: Respond on
7 behalf of the institution of higher education to written requests by
8 the department for information relating to an individual's claim or
9 claims; file appeals and petitions for review on behalf of the
10 institution of higher education regarding an individual's right to
11 benefits; or represent the institution of higher education before the
12 appeal tribunal and the commissioner in appeals involving an
13 individual's right to benefits.

14 (2) Nothing in this section prohibits an institution of higher
15 education from contracting with a private entity, including a third-
16 party payer or professional employer organization, for any services
17 other than the services prohibited by subsection (1) of this section.

18 **Sec. 2.** RCW 50.44.037 and 1977 ex.s. c 292 s 16 are each amended
19 to read as follows:

20 For the purposes of this chapter, except for section 1 of this
21 act, the term "institution of higher education" means an educational
22 institution in this state which:

23 (1) Admits as regular students only individuals having a
24 certificate of graduation from a high school, or the recognized
25 equivalent of such a certificate;

26 (2) Is legally authorized within this state to provide a program
27 of education beyond high school;

28 (3) Provides an educational program for which it awards a
29 bachelor's or higher degree, or provides a program which is
30 acceptable for full credit toward such a degree, or offers a program
31 of training to prepare students for gainful employment in a
32 recognized occupation; and

1 (4) Is a public or other nonprofit institution.

2 Notwithstanding any of the foregoing subsections, all colleges
3 and universities in this state are "institutions of higher
4 education".

5 Correct the title.

EFFECT: Specifies that public institutions of higher education may not contract with private entities to: (1) Respond on behalf of the institution to written requests by the Department of Employment Security (ESD) for information relating to an individual's claim; (2) file appeals and petitions for review on behalf of the institution regarding an individual's right to benefits; or (3) represent the institution on appeals involving an individual's right to benefits.

Specifies that the bill does not preclude an institution from contracting with private entities for other services.

Adds the provision in the unemployment insurance statutes.

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