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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6493**

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**State of Washington**

**65th Legislature**

**2018 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Higher Education & Workforce Development (originally sponsored by Senators Billig, Palumbo, Ranker, Carlyle, Hasegawa, and Kuderer)

READ FIRST TIME 02/01/18.

1 AN ACT Relating to increased transparency and accountability for  
2 intercollegiate athletic programs at public colleges and  
3 universities; and adding a new section to chapter 28B.15 RCW.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.15  
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 (1) The board of trustees or regents of each of the state's  
8 colleges and universities under RCW 28B.15.005 must specifically  
9 approve in an open public meeting, the annual budget for its programs  
10 for intercollegiate athletic competition in advance of any  
11 expenditure for that fiscal year.

12 (2) If a college or university's programs experience an operating  
13 deficit at the end of any fiscal year, the board of trustees or  
14 regents must:

15 (a) Approve a plan for how the programs will reduce operating  
16 deficits in future fiscal years;

17 (b) Conspicuously post to the college or university's web site  
18 the financial statements of the programs for the three prior fiscal  
19 years and the plan in (a) of this subsection. Any public records  
20 request for a copy of the financial statements or plan must be at no  
21 cost to the requester;

1 (c) Approve in advance any transfer exceeding two hundred fifty  
2 thousand dollars; and

3 (d) Except as provided in subsection (3) of this section, approve  
4 in advance any expenditure over two hundred fifty thousand dollars  
5 that was not included in the approved annual budget, in an open  
6 public meeting.

7 (3) Approval of an expenditure by the board of trustees or  
8 regents may occur at the next regularly scheduled board meeting after  
9 the expenditure if the expenditure is:

10 (a) Time sensitive and the net fiscal impact of the expenditure  
11 results in a direct revenue gain to the program; or

12 (b) Required to meet an immediate public safety need.

13 (4) Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the  
14 definitions in this subsection apply throughout this section:

15 (a) "Expenditure" means any discrete purchase, payment, contract  
16 amendment, or expense, unless that expenditure is required to meet an  
17 immediate public safety need.

18 (b) "Operating costs" means all direct and indirect costs to  
19 operate the programs including the value of any costs that are  
20 typically charged to departments, but have been waived by the college  
21 or university. Waived costs include, but are not limited to the value  
22 of tuition waivers for student athletes and any internal or central  
23 service costs not charged to the programs.

24 (c) "Operating deficit" means the amount by which the aggregate  
25 operating costs of the programs exceeds the aggregated receipts and  
26 revenue directly generated by the programs in the fiscal year.

27 (d) "Programs for intercollegiate athletic competition" or  
28 "programs" means those programs established under RCW 28B.10.703.

29 (e) "Transfers" means any transfer of moneys to an account used  
30 by programs for intercollegiate athletic competition from any account  
31 that holds moneys not directly generated by the programs.

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