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SENATE BILL 6493

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State of Washington

65th Legislature

2018 Regular Session

By Senators Billig, Palumbo, Ranker, Carlyle, Hasegawa, and Kuderer

Read first time 01/19/18. Referred to Committee on Higher Education & Workforce Development.

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 any expenditure for or transfer  
10 made to its programs for intercollegiate athletic competition if the  
11 programs had an operating deficit in the previous fiscal year, and  
12 the expenditure or transfer is a:

- 13 (a) New expenditure exceeding one hundred thousand dollars;  
14 (b) Continuing expenditure that has increased by one hundred  
15 thousand dollars; or  
16 (c) Transfer exceeding one hundred thousand dollars.

17 (2) If a college or university's programs experienced an  
18 operating deficit in the previous fiscal year, the board of trustees  
19 or regents must:

- 20 (a) Approve a plan for how the programs will prevent operating  
21 deficits in future fiscal years;

1 (b) Conspicuously post to the college or university's web site  
2 the financial statements of the programs for the three prior fiscal  
3 years and the plan in (a) of this subsection. Any public records  
4 request for a copy of the financial statements or plan must be at no  
5 cost to the requester.

6 (3) For the purposes of this section, the following definitions  
7 apply:

8 (a) "Expenditure" means any discrete purchase, payment, contract  
9 amendment, or expense from a source other than revenue directly  
10 generated by the programs.

11 (b) "Operating costs" means all direct and indirect costs to  
12 operate the programs including the value of any costs that are  
13 typically charged to departments, but have been waived by the college  
14 or university. Waived costs include, but are not limited to the value  
15 of tuition waivers for student athletes and any internal or central  
16 service costs not charged to the programs.

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

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

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

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