

SSB 5166 - H COMM AMD

By Committee on College & Workforce Development

ADOPTED AND ENGROSSED 4/10/19

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

3 "Sec. 1. RCW 28B.10.039 and 2014 c 168 s 4 are each amended to
4 read as follows:

5 ~~((Institutions of higher education))~~ (1) Postsecondary
6 educational institutions must develop policies to accommodate student
7 absences ~~((for up to two days per academic year,))~~ to allow students
8 to take holidays for reasons of faith or conscience or for organized
9 activities conducted under the auspices of a religious denomination,
10 church, or religious organization, so that students' grades are not
11 adversely impacted by the absences.

12 (2) The institution's policy must require faculty to reasonably
13 accommodate students who, due to the observance of religious
14 holidays, expect to be absent or endure a significant hardship during
15 certain days of the course or program. "Reasonably accommodate" means
16 coordinating with the student on scheduling examinations or other
17 activities necessary for completion of the program and includes
18 rescheduling examinations or activities or offering different times
19 for examinations or activities.

20 (3) Any student seeking reasonable accommodations under this
21 section must provide written notice to the faculty, within the first
22 two weeks of the beginning of the course, of the specific dates the
23 student requests accommodations regarding examinations or other
24 activities.

25 (4) A postsecondary educational institution shall provide notice
26 to students of its policy by publishing the policy on the
27 institution's web site and including either the policy or a link to
28 the policy in course or program syllabi. The notice to students must
29 also include notification of the institution's grievance procedure.

30 (5) A postsecondary educational institution may not require a
31 student to pay any fees for seeking reasonable accommodations under
32 this section.

1 (6) For the purposes of this section, "postsecondary educational
2 institution" means an institution of higher education as defined in
3 RCW 28B.10.016, a degree-granting institution as defined in RCW
4 28B.85.010, a private vocational school as defined in RCW 28C.10.020,
5 school as defined in RCW 18.16.020, and any entity offering academic
6 credit for an apprenticeship program under RCW 49.04.150.

7 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. RCW 28B.10.039 is recodified as a section
8 in a new chapter in Title 28B RCW."

9 Correct the title.

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