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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5410**

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**State of Washington**

**66th Legislature**

**2019 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Higher Education & Workforce Development (originally sponsored by Senators Mullet, Rivers, Palumbo, Lias, and Wilson, C.)

READ FIRST TIME 02/07/19.

1 AN ACT Relating to a systemwide credit policy regarding advanced  
2 placement, international baccalaureate, and Cambridge international  
3 exams; amending RCW 28B.10.054; creating a new section; and repealing  
4 RCW 28B.10.051.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that advanced  
7 placement, international baccalaureate, and Cambridge assessment  
8 international education coursework prepares students for  
9 postsecondary success and provides opportunities for them to earn  
10 college credit or secure placement in advanced courses.

11 The legislature feels strongly that students who have earned  
12 minimum passing scores of three on advanced placement exams, four on  
13 standard-level and higher-level international baccalaureate exams, or  
14 scores of E or higher on Cambridge assessment international education  
15 exams deserve to receive undergraduate college credit, including  
16 elective credit and, where appropriate, course equivalent credit, for  
17 their work.

18 The legislature finds it necessary to develop a systemwide credit  
19 policy that allows those students to easily understand in advance  
20 whether institutions of higher education will award them credit, as

1 well as which type of credit students will receive and the rationale  
2 for the institution of higher education's determination.

3 The legislature further encourages institutions of higher  
4 education to establish a policy favoring the award of course  
5 equivalent credit for the successful completion of standardized and  
6 commonly required courses.

7 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28B.10.054 and 2017 c 179 s 2 are each amended to  
8 read as follows:

9 (1) The institutions of higher education must establish a  
10 coordinated, evidence-based policy for granting as many undergraduate  
11 college credits, as possible and appropriate, to students who have  
12 earned minimum passing scores of three on ((AP)) advanced placement  
13 exams ((as possible and appropriate)), four on standard-level and  
14 higher-level international baccalaureate exams, or scores of E or  
15 higher on Cambridge assessment international education exams.

16 (2) Each institution of higher education must create a process  
17 for retroactively awarding undergraduate college credits under the  
18 terms of this section to students who first enrolled in the  
19 institution of higher education in the 2017-18 academic year.

20 (3) Credit ((policy)) policies regarding all ((AP)) advanced  
21 placement, international baccalaureate, and Cambridge assessment  
22 international education exams must be posted on campus web sites  
23 effective for the ((2017)) 2019 fall academic term. If an institution  
24 of higher education is unable to award a general education course  
25 equivalency, the web site regarding credit awarding policy must  
26 publicly disclose an evidence-based reason as to why course  
27 equivalency cannot be granted. Institutions of higher education must  
28 maintain web sites regarding their advanced placement, international  
29 baccalaureate, and Cambridge assessment international education  
30 policies in a publicly accessible way. The institutions of higher  
31 education must conduct biennial reviews of their ((AP)) advanced  
32 placement, international baccalaureate, and Cambridge assessment  
33 international education credit ((policy)) policies and report  
34 noncompliance to the appropriate committees of the legislature by  
35 November 1st each year beginning November 1, 2019.

36 (4) The institutions of higher education must provide an update  
37 to the joint legislative audit and review committee on their credit  
38 awarding policies by December 31, 2019.

1        NEW SECTION.        **Sec. 3.**        RCW 28B.10.051 (International  
2        baccalaureate and Cambridge international exams credit policies) and  
3        2018 c 124 s 2 are each repealed.

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