
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 4408

State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1993 Regular Session

By House Committee on Higher Education (originally sponsored by Representatives Jacobsen, Brumsickle, Quall, Shin, Flemming, Carlson, Rayburn, Kessler, J. Kohl, Bray, Ogden, Wood, Horn and L. Johnson)

Read first time 02/19/93.

1 WHEREAS, The Washington Higher Education Coordinating Board was
2 created by chapter 370, Laws of 1985; and

3 WHEREAS, The Washington Higher Education Coordinating Board was
4 charged with responsibility for preparing a biennial update of the
5 master plan for higher education in this state; and

6 WHEREAS, The Washington Higher Education Coordinating Board
7 conducted public meetings and held public hearings throughout the
8 state, completed its study of Washington's system of postsecondary
9 education, and submitted its update of the master plan for higher
10 education to the Legislature on January 4, 1993; and

11 WHEREAS, Section 4, chapter 370, Laws of 1985, requires the
12 Legislature, by concurrent resolution, to "approve or recommend
13 changes" to the master plan;

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the House of Representatives of
15 the State of Washington, the Senate concurring, That the Washington
16 Higher Education Coordinating Board be commended for its high quality
17 work, dedication, and commitment to the State of Washington in
18 producing a revised update of the master plan for higher education
19 titled "Commitment to Opportunity"; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Legislature approve the following
21 goals of the update of the master plan:

1 (1) That Washington increase access throughout postsecondary
2 education and continue progress toward achieving, state-wide, a level
3 of upper division and graduate enrollment equal to the seventieth
4 percentile in national participation rates and a system-wide enrollment
5 goal equal to the ninetieth percentile in national participation rates
6 by 2010;

7 (2) That Washington reaffirm its commitment toward increasing
8 access for economically disadvantaged students by expanding state
9 financial aid programs targeted first to the neediest students;

10 (3) That Washington continue to support efforts by the state
11 institutions of postsecondary education and by the Higher Education
12 Coordinating Board to increase access for and retention of persons of
13 color and persons with disabilities;

14 (4) That Washington support an increase in upper division programs
15 for persons in geographically isolated communities;

16 (5) That Washington's system of postsecondary education contribute
17 directly to the achievement of the state's economic strength and
18 competitiveness through ensuring that the state has a highly educated,
19 skilled, and flexible work force capable of meeting the challenges of
20 a changing economy;

21 (6) That Washington's system of postsecondary education has no more
22 basic responsibility than to offer an education of the highest quality
23 to undergraduate students;

24 (7) That Washington encourage and require evidence of improvements
25 in the quality and effectiveness of undergraduate education at research
26 universities and their branch campuses, comprehensive institutions, and
27 community and technical colleges;

28 (8) That Washington encourage and support expansion of the
29 assessment of program effectiveness and student competencies;

30 (9) That Washington's system of postsecondary education expand
31 partnerships with the K-12 school system, community service
32 organizations, and the business community;

33 (10) That Washington's system of postsecondary education has an
34 obligation to contribute to educational reform at all levels by
35 assisting in curriculum development, providing students opportunities
36 to make smooth transitions as they move among education levels and
37 sectors and into the workplace, and ensuring that tomorrow's teachers
38 acquire the knowledge and skills needed to be effective educators for
39 the twenty-first century;

1 (11) That Washington stabilize the budget base for postsecondary
2 education and define a carry-forward essential requirements level that
3 includes provisions for the state's population growth;

4 (12) That Washington require the Higher Education Coordinating
5 Board, in cooperation with the State Board for Community and Technical
6 Colleges and the public four-year institutions of higher education, to
7 identify internal efficiency measures to increase both access to and
8 the quality of education;

9 (13) That Washington require the Higher Education Coordinating
10 Board to provide an annual report on postsecondary education to the
11 citizens of the state; and

12 (14) That Washington require the Higher Education Coordinating
13 Board to undertake a comprehensive study of tuition and fee policies to
14 be submitted to the 1994 Legislature; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That by September 1, 1993, the Legislature
16 and the Governor appoint a citizen-legislator task force to conduct a
17 comprehensive study on funding policies and revenue sources for
18 postsecondary education. The study shall include but need not be
19 limited to a comparison of the present funding system with a system
20 based on programmatic and upper and lower division funding; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the citizen-legislator task force
22 consist of at least two members from each caucus of the Senate and the
23 House of Representatives, selected by the President of the Senate and
24 the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Director of the Office
25 of Financial Management, a member of the Higher Education Coordinating
26 Board, a member of the Work Force Training and Education Coordinating
27 Board, and up to six citizens appointed by the Governor; and

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the citizen-legislator task force
29 report its findings and recommendations by June 1, 1994, to the
30 Governor, the Legislature, and the Higher Education Coordinating Board
31 for inclusion in the 1995-97 operating budget for postsecondary
32 education.

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