
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 8405

State of Washington 53rd Legislature 1993 Regular Session

By Senators Bauer, Prince, Drew, Sheldon, West and Jesernig

Read first time 02/15/93. Referred to Committee on Higher Education.

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 Senate of the State of
15 Washington, the House of Representatives concurring, That the
16 Washington Higher Education Coordinating Board be commended for its
17 high quality work, dedication, and commitment to the State of
18 Washington in producing a revised update of the master plan for higher
19 education 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 continue progress toward achieving, state-wide,
2 a level of upper division and graduate enrollment equal to the
3 seventieth percentile in national participation rates and a system-wide
4 enrollment goal equal to the ninetieth percentile in national
5 participation rates by 2010;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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