
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5411

State of Washington

59th Legislature

2005 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Early Learning, K-12 & Higher Education (originally sponsored by Senators Pridemore, Kohl-Welles, Benton, Schmidt, McAuliffe, Zarelli, Rasmussen, Thibaudeau, Doumit, Shin, Regala, Keiser, Prentice, Fairley, Jacobsen and Pflug)

READ FIRST TIME 03/02/05.

1 AN ACT Relating to authorizing branch campuses to offer lower-
2 division courses; amending RCW 28B.45.014, 28B.45.020, 28B.45.030, and
3 28B.45.040; and creating a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the University of
6 Washington Bothell, University of Washington Tacoma, Washington State
7 University Tri-Cities, and Washington State University Vancouver have
8 each conducted a thorough review of the campus mission and model of
9 educational services and made recommendations to the legislature for
10 the future evolution of the campus. The legislature further finds that
11 in setting the course for branch campus expansion, the needs of the
12 higher education system as a whole must be considered. The legislature
13 recognizes that there are regional differences in relation to capacity
14 gaps and programmatic needs of students that require a differential
15 approach to individual branch campus expansion and that similar
16 treatment of each campus may no longer be the most efficient way in
17 which to address the higher education needs of the state. The
18 legislature further believes that the original mission of branch
19 campuses to contribute to regional economic development requires

1 differential treatment of each campus based on the regional economic
2 and higher education needs. Therefore, it is the legislature's intent
3 to authorize each campus to expand its educational offerings to include
4 lower-division courses but the expansion shall be unique to each
5 campus, reflect the needs of the region the campus serves, and continue
6 to support collaboration with the entire higher education system.

7 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28B.45.014 and 2004 c 57 s 2 are each amended to read
8 as follows:

9 (1) The primary mission of the higher education branch campuses
10 created under this chapter remains to expand access to baccalaureate
11 and master's level graduate education in underserved urban areas of the
12 state, both in collaboration with community and technical colleges for
13 transfer students and, to the extent authorized by this chapter, by
14 offering lower-division courses or admitting freshman and sophomore
15 students.

16 (2) Branch campuses shall collaborate with the community and
17 technical colleges in their region to develop articulation agreements,
18 dual admissions policies, and other partnerships to ensure that branch
19 campuses serve as innovative models of a two plus two educational
20 system. Other possibilities for collaboration include but are not
21 limited to joint development of curricula and degree programs,
22 colocation of instruction, and arrangements to share faculty.

23 (3) In communities where a private postsecondary institution is
24 located, representatives of the private institution may be invited to
25 participate in the conversation about meeting the baccalaureate and
26 master's level graduate needs in underserved urban areas of the state.

27 (4) ~~((However, the legislature recognizes there are alternative~~
28 ~~models for achieving this primary mission. Some campuses may have~~
29 ~~additional missions in response to regional needs and demands. At~~
30 ~~selected branch campuses, an innovative combination of instruction and~~
31 ~~research targeted to support regional economic development may be~~
32 ~~appropriate to meet the region's needs for both access and economic~~
33 ~~viability. Other campuses should focus on becoming models of a two~~
34 ~~plus two educational system through continuous improvement of~~
35 ~~partnerships and agreements with community and technical colleges.~~
36 ~~Still other campuses may be best suited to transition to a four year~~

1 ~~comprehensive university or be removed from designation as a branch~~
2 ~~campus entirely.~~

3 ~~(5))~~ It is the legislature's intent that each branch campus be
4 funded commensurate with its unique mission(~~(7)~~) and the degree
5 programs offered, (~~and the institutional combination of instruction~~
6 ~~and research,~~) but at a level less than a research university.

7 ~~((6))~~ (5) In consultation with the higher education coordinating
8 board, a branch campus may propose legislation to authorize practice-
9 oriented or professional doctoral programs if: (a) Unique research
10 facilities and equipment are located near the campus; or (b) the campus
11 can clearly demonstrate student and employer demand in the region that
12 is linked to regional economic development.

13 ~~((7) It is not the legislature's intent to have each campus chart~~
14 ~~its own future path without legislative guidance. Instead, the~~
15 ~~legislature intends to consider carefully the mission and model of~~
16 ~~education that best suits each campus and best meets the needs of~~
17 ~~students, the community, and the region.))~~

18 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28B.45.020 and 1994 c 217 s 3 are each amended to read
19 as follows:

20 (1) A primary responsibility of the University of Washington is
21 ((responsible for ensuring)) to provide for the expansion of upper-
22 division and graduate educational programs in the central Puget Sound
23 area under rules or guidelines adopted by the higher education
24 coordinating board and in accordance with proportionality agreements
25 emphasizing access for transfer students developed with the state board
26 for community and technical colleges. The University of Washington
27 shall meet that responsibility through the operation of at least two
28 branch campuses. One branch campus shall be located in the Tacoma
29 area. Another branch campus shall be collocated with Cascadia
30 Community College in the Bothell-Woodinville area. In addition to
31 upper-division and graduate educational programs, the branch campuses
32 may offer lower-division coursework and enroll freshman and sophomore
33 students as established in this section. This additional authority
34 does not permit the branch campuses to restrict transfer capacity and
35 access, but rather is intended to authorize the campuses to create
36 additional lower-division capacity in accordance with regional needs.

1 (2) The University of Washington Tacoma may offer lower-division
2 coursework and enroll freshman and sophomore students who meet the
3 university's admission criteria, in accordance with the campus plan
4 submitted to the higher education coordinating board in 2004. The
5 University of Washington Tacoma shall continue to collaborate with
6 surrounding community and technical colleges.

7 (3) The University of Washington Bothell may offer lower-division
8 coursework only to the extent those courses are linked to specific
9 majors in fields that are not addressed by programs offered at Cascadia
10 community college. The University of Washington Bothell shall
11 establish coadmission or coenrollment agreements with, at a minimum,
12 Cascadia Community College by 2006 and may admit lower-division
13 students through such agreements.

14 Starting in 2006, the University of Washington Bothell may also
15 offer targeted programs for freshmen and sophomores that create
16 additional baccalaureate pathways for students who meet the
17 university's admission criteria. These programs shall supplement and
18 not duplicate existing two plus two programs with community colleges.

19 **Sec. 4.** RCW 28B.45.030 and 1989 1st ex.s. c 7 s 4 are each amended
20 to read as follows:

21 (1) A primary responsibility of Washington State University is
22 ((responsible for providing)) to provide for upper-division and
23 graduate level higher education programs to the citizens of the Tri-
24 Cities area, under rules or guidelines adopted by the higher education
25 coordinating board and in accordance with proportionality agreements
26 emphasizing access for transfer students developed with the state board
27 for community and technical colleges. Washington State University
28 shall meet that responsibility through the operation of a branch campus
29 in the Tri-Cities area. The branch campus shall replace and supersede
30 the Tri-Cities university center. All land, facilities, equipment, and
31 personnel of the Tri-Cities university center shall be transferred from
32 the University of Washington to Washington State University.

33 (2) In addition to upper-division and graduate level higher
34 education programs, Washington State University Tri-Cities may offer
35 lower-division coursework only to the extent those courses are linked
36 to specific majors in fields that are not addressed by programs offered
37 at the local community and technical college serving the community in

1 which the program is offered. This additional authority does not
2 permit the branch campus to restrict transfer capacity and access, but
3 rather is intended to authorize the campus to create additional lower-
4 division capacity in accordance with regional needs. Washington State
5 University Tri-Cities shall establish a coadmission or coenrollment
6 agreement with Columbia Basin College by 2006 and may admit lower-
7 division students through such agreements.

8 **Sec. 5.** RCW 28B.45.040 and 1989 1st ex.s. c 7 s 5 are each amended
9 to read as follows:

10 (1) A primary responsibility of Washington State University is
11 ((responsible for providing)) to provide for upper-division and
12 graduate level higher education programs to the citizens of the
13 southwest Washington area, under rules or guidelines adopted by the
14 higher education coordinating board and in accordance with
15 proportionality agreements emphasizing access for transfer students
16 developed with the state board for community and technical colleges.
17 Washington State University shall meet that responsibility through the
18 operation of ((a)) the Vancouver branch campus ((in the southwest
19 Washington area)).

20 (2) In addition to upper-division and graduate level higher
21 education programs, Washington State University Vancouver may offer
22 lower-division coursework and enroll freshman and sophomore students
23 who meet the university's admission criteria. This additional
24 authority does not permit the branch campus to restrict transfer
25 capacity and access, but rather is intended to authorize the campus to
26 create additional lower-division capacity in accordance with regional
27 needs.

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