5734-S AMH ANDG SMIT 166

<u>SSB 5734</u> - H AMD TO WAYS COMM AMD (H-3287.1) 717 By Representative Anderson

WITHDRAWN 4/22/2009

1 On page 2, after line 34 of the striking amendment, insert the 2 following:

3 "<u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 28B.15 RCW 4 to read as follows:

5 (1) In an effort to control the total amount of tuition paid by 6 resident undergraduate students in pursuit of an associate or 7 bachelors degree, the institutions of higher education must establish 8 a cap on the total number of credits required for completion of a 9 degree. The state board for community and technical colleges shall 10 establish a maximum of ninety quarter credits for all associate 11 degrees conferred by the community and technical colleges. The 12 governing boards of the state universities, regional universities, and 13 The Evergreen State College shall establish a maximum one hundred 14 eighty quarter credits or one hundred twenty semester credits for all 15 undergraduate degrees.

16 (2) The public institutions of higher education may request an 17 exemption from the provisions of this section if the degrees would be 18 conferred in a high employer demand program of study. The community 19 and technical colleges may request an exemption from the state board 20 for community and technical colleges. The state universities, regional 21 universities, and The Evergreen State College may request an exemption 22 from the higher education coordinating board.

(3) The state board for community and technical colleges and the higher education coordinating board shall develop policies and procedures to implement the provisions of this section."

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EFFECT: Requires the institutions of higher education to establish caps on the maximum number of credits that can be required for the completion of associate and bachelor's degrees. The SBCTC and HECB are given authority to make exemptions to the requirement.

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