
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1669

State of Washington

63rd Legislature

2013 Regular Session

By House Higher Education (originally sponsored by Representatives Pollet, Haler, Cody, Tarleton, Johnson, Seaquist, Farrell, Magendanz, Riccelli, and Ryu)

READ FIRST TIME 02/22/13.

1 AN ACT Relating to self-supporting, fee-based programs at four-year
2 institutions of higher education; and adding a new section to chapter
3 28B.15 RCW.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.15 RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 (1) When a decision is being considered to change an existing
8 degree program that is supported by state funding to a program that is
9 self-supporting and fee-based, the state universities, regional
10 universities, and The Evergreen State College shall:

11 (a) Publicly notify prospective students, including notification
12 in admission offers with an estimate of tuition and fees;

13 (b) Notify enrolled students and undergraduate or graduate student
14 government associations at least six months before implementation with
15 an estimate of tuition and fees; and

16 (c) Allow students currently enrolled in the program to continue in
17 the state-supported program structure for a consecutive amount of time
18 no greater than four years in length;

1 (2)(a) The state universities, regional universities, and The
2 Evergreen State College shall each establish or designate a committee
3 comprised of administrators, faculty, and students to create criteria
4 upon which to evaluate, prior to a shift being made, the proposed shift
5 of a degree program from a state-supported degree program to a self-
6 supporting funding basis. Where possible, an existing budget or
7 advisory committee shall be designated instead of establishing a new
8 committee. When establishing evaluation criteria, the committee shall
9 consider including the following:

10 (i) The financial health and sustainability of the program;

11 (ii) If moving the program to a self-supporting funding basis
12 alters the availability of student financial aid;

13 (iii) The audience for the program, the format of the program, and
14 the institutional priority for state funding of the program;

15 (iv) Demographics of students served and graduates practicing in
16 typical fields of study; and

17 (v) Alternatives to shifting to a self-supporting funding basis
18 including raising tuition within the state-funded context or program
19 elimination;

20 (b) The committee that creates the criteria for moving a degree
21 from a state-supported degree program to a self-supporting funding
22 basis may also establish a process to periodically evaluate programs
23 that have shifted from a state-supported program to a fee-based funding
24 model for alignment with criteria established.

--- END ---