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HOUSE BILL 2285

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State of Washington

63rd Legislature

2014 Regular Session

By Representatives Orwall, Dahlquist, Haigh, Magendanz, Lytton, Stonier, Santos, Bergquist, Seaquist, Zeiger, Ryu, Carlyle, and Pollet

Read first time 01/15/14. Referred to Committee on Higher Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to reviewing institution of higher education  
2 policies related to dual credit coursework; adding a new section to  
3 chapter 28B.77 RCW; creating a new section; and providing an expiration  
4 date.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that as the cost of  
7 higher education is shifted away from state support and more toward the  
8 contribution of students and their families, dual credit courses allow  
9 students an opportunity to cut the cost of their higher education by  
10 earning college credits while in high school. However, because each  
11 institution of higher education has its own unique policies related to  
12 awarding such credit, the dual credit work that students do while in  
13 high school is not always recognized by institutions of higher  
14 education.

15 This act is intended to better understand the array of policies  
16 that institutions of higher education use to award college credit for  
17 dual credit courses. With that understanding, work related to awarding  
18 college credit for dual credit courses can continue to create a more

1 uniform policy among institutions of higher education. In doing so,  
2 students will have a greater reassurance that their dual credit  
3 coursework will be recognized for college credit.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.77 RCW  
5 to read as follows:

6 (1) The council shall review policies related to providing students  
7 college credit for completion of dual credit courses. The dual credit  
8 courses that should be considered in this analysis include AP,  
9 International Baccalaureate, and Cambridge. This review must identify  
10 the major differences between institutions of higher education in  
11 awarding college credit for completion of dual credit coursework and  
12 best practices among the institutions in awarding college credit for  
13 completion of dual credit courses. The review must further identify  
14 whether the institutional crediting policies apply equally to each dual  
15 credit program, or whether certain dual credit programs are not awarded  
16 as much college credit. By December 1, 2014, the council shall make  
17 recommendations to the higher education committees of the legislature  
18 regarding the steps that should be taken to improve the practices of  
19 institutions of higher education in awarding college credit for dual  
20 credit coursework.

21 (2) This section expires August 1, 2015.

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