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HOUSE BILL 1607

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State of Washington

54th Legislature

1995 Regular Session

By Representatives Van Luven, Carlson, Sheldon, Wolfe and B. Thomas

Read first time 02/01/95. Referred to Committee on Trade & Economic Development.

1 AN ACT Relating to international education; adding a new chapter to  
2 Title 28B RCW; and creating a new section.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that it is important  
5 to the economic future of the state to promote international awareness  
6 and understanding. The legislature further finds that the state's  
7 economy and economic well-being depend heavily on foreign trade and  
8 international exchange. It is the intent of the legislature to  
9 encourage outstanding international students to attend Washington  
10 state's institutions of higher education. Therefore, the international  
11 exchange scholarship program is created to assist in the effort to  
12 recruit international students who reside in a country with an existing  
13 trade relationship with the state of Washington.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** Unless context clearly requires otherwise,  
15 the definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter.

16 (1) "Board" means the higher education coordinating board.

17 (2) "Eligible participant" means an international student whose  
18 country of residence has a trade relationship with the United States.

1 (3) "Institution of higher education" or "institution" means a  
2 college or university in the state of Washington that is accredited by  
3 an accrediting association recognized as such by rule of the board.

4 (4) "Service obligation" means volunteering for a minimum number of  
5 hours as established by the board based on the amount of scholarship  
6 award, to speak to or teach groups of Washington citizens, including  
7 but not limited to elementary, middle, and high schools, service clubs,  
8 and universities.

9 (5) "Washington international exchange scholarship program" means  
10 a scholarship award for a period not to exceed one academic year to  
11 attend a Washington institution of higher education made to an  
12 international student whose country has an established trade  
13 relationship with Washington.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The Washington international exchange  
15 scholarship program is created. The program shall be administered by  
16 the board. In administering the program, the board shall:

17 (1) Convene an advisory committee that may include but need not be  
18 limited to representatives of the office of superintendent of public  
19 instruction, the department of community, trade, and economic  
20 development, the secretary of state, private business, and institutions  
21 of higher education;

22 (2) Select students to receive the scholarship with the assistance  
23 of a screening committee composed of leaders in business, international  
24 trade, and education;

25 (3) Adopt necessary rules and guidelines including rules for  
26 disbursing scholarship funds to participants;

27 (4) Publicize the program;

28 (5) Solicit and accept grants and donations from public and private  
29 sources for the program;

30 (6) Establish and notify participants of service obligations; and

31 (7) Establish a formula for selecting the countries from which  
32 participants may be selected in consultation with the department of  
33 community, trade, and economic development.

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The board may negotiate and enter into a  
35 reciprocal agreement with foreign countries that have international  
36 students attending institutions in Washington. The goal of the  
37 reciprocal agreements shall be to allow Washington students enrolled in

1 an institution of higher education to attend an international  
2 institution under similar terms and conditions.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** If funds are available, the board shall  
4 select students yearly to receive a Washington international exchange  
5 student scholarship from moneys earned from the Washington  
6 international exchange scholarship endowment fund created in section 7  
7 of this act, from funds appropriated to the board for this purpose, or  
8 from any private donations, or from any other funds given to the board  
9 for this program.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** The Washington international exchange trust  
11 fund is established in the custody of the state treasurer. Any funds  
12 appropriated by the legislature for the trust fund shall be deposited  
13 into the fund. At the request of the board, and when conditions set  
14 forth in section 8 of this act are met, the treasurer shall deposit  
15 state matching moneys from the Washington international exchange trust  
16 fund into the Washington international exchange scholarship endowment  
17 fund. No appropriation is required for expenditures from the trust  
18 fund.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** The Washington international exchange  
20 scholarship endowment fund is established. The endowment fund shall be  
21 administered by the state treasurer. Moneys received from the private  
22 donations and funds received from any other source may be deposited  
23 into the endowment fund. At the request of the board, the treasurer  
24 shall release earnings from the endowment fund to the board for  
25 scholarships. No appropriation is required for expenditures from the  
26 endowment fund. The principal of the endowment fund shall not be  
27 invaded. The earnings on the fund shall be used solely for the  
28 purposes in this chapter.

29 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** The board may request that the treasurer  
30 deposit state matching funds into the Washington international exchange  
31 scholarship endowment fund when the board can match the state funds  
32 with an equal amount of private cash donations, including conditional  
33 gifts.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 9.**    Each Washington international exchange  
2 scholarship recipient shall agree to complete the service obligation as  
3 defined by the board.

4        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 10.**    (1) The higher education coordinating board  
5 shall establish an advisory committee to assist in program design and  
6 to develop criteria for an international students internship program.

7        (2) The advisory committee may include, but need not be limited to  
8 the governor, a representative of the department of community, trade,  
9 and economic development, the secretary of state, and representatives  
10 of institutions of higher education, cultural exchange organizations,  
11 international trade organizations, and business.

12        (3) By December 31, 1996, the board shall make recommendations for  
13 legislation establishing a program for successful completion of  
14 internships within countries of targeted trading partners identified by  
15 the department of community, trade, and economic development that  
16 provides for credit opportunities toward degree programs for Washington  
17 state students.

18        (4) The advisory committee established in subsection (1) of this  
19 section shall expire December 1, 1996.

20        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 11.**    Sections 1 through 9 of this act shall  
21 constitute a new chapter in Title 28B RCW.

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