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HOUSE BILL 2288

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State of Washington                      54th Legislature                      1996 Regular Session

By Representatives Jacobsen, Carlson and Mason

Read first time 01/09/96. Referred to Committee on Higher Education.

1            AN ACT Relating to financial aid portability; amending RCW  
2 28B.10.802; adding a new section to chapter 28B.10 RCW; creating a new  
3 section; and providing an expiration date.

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

5            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.**    (1) The legislature finds that:

6            (a) During the next fifteen to twenty years, Washington's colleges  
7 and universities will face significant capacity and fiscal pressures as  
8 they attempt to meet the enrollment demands of students from the baby  
9 boom echo generation and from workers seeking retraining;

10           (b) One of the ways to help alleviate some of the pressure caused  
11 by enrollment demands may be by permitting students to use their  
12 financial aid awards to study in other states;

13           (c) Some of Washington's needy college students would benefit from  
14 an opportunity to study in specialized programs or institutions of  
15 higher education located in other states;

16           (d) Many of Washington's American Indian students have strong  
17 family and tribal ties that extend beyond the boundaries of Washington  
18 state; and

1 (e) The state could benefit by creating pilot projects that study  
2 creative, cost-effective ways to meet the postsecondary education needs  
3 of Washington's students.

4 (2) Therefore, the legislature intends to direct the higher  
5 education coordinating board to establish a pilot project that permits  
6 a limited number of students to use their state need grant awards to  
7 study in other states.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.10 RCW  
9 to read as follows:

10 (1) The higher education coordinating board shall create a pilot  
11 project that permits some students to use their state need grant awards  
12 when the students study in other states. The pilot project shall  
13 include, but need not be limited to, needy students wishing to attend  
14 eligible institutions that are members of the American Indian higher  
15 education consortium. The board may adopt rules to establish  
16 eligibility criteria for student and institutional participation in the  
17 pilot project. By December 15, 2000, the board shall report to the  
18 governor and appropriate committees of the legislature on the results  
19 of the pilot project. The report shall include a recommendation on the  
20 extent financial aid portability should be permitted for Washington's  
21 students.

22 (2) This section expires June 30, 2001.

23 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28B.10.802 and 1989 c 254 s 2 are each amended to read  
24 as follows:

25 As used in RCW 28B.10.800 through 28B.10.824:

26 (1) "Institutions of higher education" shall mean (1) any public  
27 university, college, community college, or vocational-technical  
28 institute operated by the state of Washington or any political  
29 subdivision thereof (~~(or)~~); (2) any institution of higher education  
30 that meets the eligibility requirements established by the board under  
31 section 2 of this act; (3) any institution that is a member of the  
32 American Indian higher education consortium and that meets the  
33 eligibility requirements established by the board under section 2 of  
34 this act; or (4) any other university, college, school, or institute in  
35 the state of Washington offering instruction beyond the high school  
36 level which is a member institution of an accrediting association  
37 recognized by rule of the board for the purposes of this section:

1 PROVIDED, That any institution, branch, extension or facility operating  
2 within the state of Washington which is affiliated with an institution  
3 operating in another state must be a separately accredited member  
4 institution of any such accrediting association: PROVIDED FURTHER,  
5 That no institution of higher education shall be eligible to  
6 participate in a student financial aid program unless it agrees to and  
7 complies with program rules and regulations adopted pursuant to RCW  
8 28B.10.822.

9 (2) The term "financial aid" shall mean loans and/or grants to  
10 needy students enrolled or accepted for enrollment as a student at  
11 institutions of higher education.

12 (3) The term "needy student" shall mean a post high school student  
13 of an institution of higher learning as defined in subsection (1) of  
14 this section who demonstrates to the board the financial inability,  
15 either through the student's parents, family and/or personally, to meet  
16 the total cost of board, room, books, and tuition and incidental fees  
17 for any semester or quarter.

18 (4) The term "disadvantaged student" shall mean a post high school  
19 student who by reason of adverse cultural, educational, environmental,  
20 experiential, familial or other circumstances is unable to qualify for  
21 enrollment as a full time student in an institution of higher learning,  
22 who would otherwise qualify as a needy student, and who is attending an  
23 institution of higher learning under an established program designed to  
24 qualify the student for enrollment as a full time student.

25 (5) "Commission" or "board" shall mean the higher education  
26 coordinating board.

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