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**ENGROSSED HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 4422**

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**State of Washington                      54th Legislature                      1996 Regular Session**

**By Representatives Carlson, Jacobsen, Mulliken, Scheuerman and Mason**

Read first time 02/02/96. Referred to Committee on Rules.

1            WHEREAS, Chapter 370, Laws of 1985, created the Washington Higher  
2 Education Coordinating Board to plan, coordinate, and provide policy  
3 analysis for higher education and to represent the broad public  
4 interest above the interest of individual colleges and universities;  
5 and

6            WHEREAS, Section 4, chapter 370, Laws of 1985, requires the board  
7 to prepare and update a master plan for higher education and requires  
8 the Legislature, by concurrent resolution, to "approve or recommend  
9 changes" to the master plan and its subsequent updates; and

10           WHEREAS, The provisions of the master plan that are approved by the  
11 Legislature become state higher education policy unless legislation is  
12 enacted to revise those policies; and

13           WHEREAS, The Washington Higher Education Coordinating Board  
14 submitted the initial master plan to the Legislature for approval in  
15 December 1987, and submitted updates to the plan in December 1992 and  
16 January 1996; and

17           WHEREAS, During the most recent process used to update the plan,  
18 the board, through a public opinion survey and public meetings, learned  
19 that Washington residents have high expectations for the postsecondary  
20 system including accountability, quality, and a high level of access  
21 for themselves and their children; and

1       WHEREAS, The board reported that Washington's public and private  
2 colleges, universities, and career schools would need to provide  
3 opportunities for a minimum of an additional 84,100 full-time  
4 equivalent students in the year 2010, if Washington is to provide its  
5 residents the education and training necessary to keep pace with the  
6 demands of an ever-changing world; and

7       WHEREAS, The board has identified the areas where potential  
8 solutions to the access challenge may lie and recognized that, in this  
9 era of rapid change, many questions must be addressed to clarify the  
10 role that each area may play in defining solutions to the access  
11 challenge; and

12       WHEREAS, The board challenged itself, the students, the  
13 institutions, and the Legislature to each accept its individual  
14 responsibilities and to collaborate in the development of potential  
15 solutions; and

16       WHEREAS, The Legislature and the Washington Higher Education  
17 Coordinating Board recognize that the master plan is a living document,  
18 responding to the constantly changing world of access to information  
19 and the needs of Washington citizens; and

20       WHEREAS, The Legislature recognizes that the historic methods and  
21 systems for delivering postsecondary education and training are  
22 constantly changing;

23       NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the House of Representatives of  
24 the State of Washington, the Senate concurring, That the Washington  
25 Higher Education Coordinating Board be commended for its dedication and  
26 commitment to the State of Washington in producing the 1996 update of  
27 the master plan for higher education titled "The Challenge for Higher  
28 Education"; and

29       BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Legislature thank the board for  
30 describing many of the daunting challenges facing the state in its  
31 attempts to provide the postsecondary education and training that our  
32 citizens need to navigate in the world of the twenty-first century  
33 successfully; and

34       BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Legislature approve the following  
35 recommendations of the 1996 update of the master plan:

36       (1) That, by the year 2010, Washington's system of postsecondary  
37 education needs to provide opportunities for at least 84,100 additional  
38 full-time equivalent students in quality programs of postsecondary  
39 education and training;

1 (2) That solutions to this enrollment challenge, in part, may be  
2 found in the following areas: (a) The shift in focus from teaching to  
3 learning; (b) the use of technology to increase and redefine access,  
4 improve quality, and offer alternative methods of instruction; (c) the  
5 expansion of partnerships among educational sectors, and with local  
6 communities, business, and labor; (d) the provision of financial aid  
7 for needy and meritorious students; and (e) the use of existing  
8 institutional capacities in a way that ensures provision of a cost-  
9 effective, efficient, and accountable educational enterprise; and

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the board solicit advice from a  
11 diverse group of people, including students, faculty, and staff, from  
12 all education sectors; business district and labor representatives;  
13 community leaders; innovators; representatives from distinct ethnic  
14 populations; and experts from other states to further refine, through  
15 innovative approaches, the solution options described in the 1996  
16 master plan update; and that the board report to the 1997 Legislature  
17 with refinements to the plan in areas that include, but need not be  
18 limited to:

19 (1) Recommendations to the institutions and the Legislature on  
20 appropriate state and institutional roles for providing remedial and  
21 developmental education;

22 (2) An initial list of duplicative and low-productivity programs;  
23 a process for examining those programs that might be reconfigured,  
24 consolidated, or eliminated; and a recommendation on a process to  
25 eliminate programs not conducive to consolidation or reconfiguration;

26 (3) Recommendations on ways to further restructure the ways that  
27 the state delivers and supports higher education including the  
28 expansion of partnerships with the K-12 school system, reducing  
29 boundaries, expanding the use of 2 + 2 programs and extended degree  
30 centers, providing students opportunities to make smooth transitions as  
31 they move among education levels and sectors and into the workplace,  
32 the development of a data system to track student progress between  
33 levels and sectors, reducing institutional and student barriers to  
34 encourage improvements in time-to-degree, and emphasizing the role of  
35 teacher preparation programs;

36 (4) Recommendations on the governance structure and state framework  
37 for the integration of technology into the entire education enterprise  
38 while recognizing that enhancing learning through technology requires  
39 more than just the access to equipment, services, and networks; it

1 requires new ways of teaching, new roles for learners, new learning  
2 goals, different uses of time and resources, and a strong support  
3 system for educators;

4 (5) Recommendations for streamlining the program approval process  
5 including (a) a recognition of the programs offered by the independent  
6 institutions, and (b) changes in procedure that enable the institutions  
7 to respond rapidly to meet the emerging needs of the state; and

8 (6) Recommendations on ways institutions can increase access and  
9 reduce costs through resource sharing, ensuring equitable educational  
10 and training outcomes for persons from diverse ethnic backgrounds,  
11 enhanced use of the public higher education system's physical plan, and  
12 additional collaborative projects between institutions of higher  
13 education and the common schools and among public and independent  
14 institutions; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That by December 15, 1996, the board  
16 provide to the citizens and the legislature the report required under  
17 RCW 28B.80.616, and include in the report information about the family  
18 incomes of freshmen entering the state's public and independent  
19 baccalaureate institutions; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the 1997 Legislature respond by  
21 concurrent resolution to the refinements brought forward by the Higher  
22 Education Coordinating Board.

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