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HOUSE BILL 1731

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State of Washington

56th Legislature

1999 Regular Session

By Representatives Kenney, Carlson, Lantz, Reardon, Linville, Skinner, Gombosky, Doumit, Edwards, Anderson, Veloria, Edmonds, Kessler, Kagi, Wolfe, Hatfield, Murray, Ruderman, Dunshee, Grant, Rockefeller, O'Brien and Conway

Read first time 02/03/1999. Referred to Committee on Higher Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to community and technical colleges economic  
2 incentive grants; and adding new sections to chapter 28B.50 RCW.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that it is in the  
5 public interest to encourage and enhance cooperation among business,  
6 industry, and community and technical colleges. It is the policy of  
7 the state to facilitate interinstitutional coordination, planning, and  
8 collaborative arrangements to make efficient use of educational  
9 facilities and encourage economic development.

10 (2) In order to secure for the citizens of Washington the  
11 advantages that would accrue through cooperative programs that meet  
12 specific educational, business, and societal needs, the college board  
13 may provide economic development grants for the planning and design of  
14 programs offered by two or more community and technical colleges using  
15 appropriated funds. Economic development grants shall encourage  
16 cooperation among business, industry, and community and technical  
17 colleges, and meet the work force training needs of this state.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 2.** As used in sections 1 through 4 of this act,  
2 "instructional program" means a course of study leading to  
3 certification, licensure, or a degree at the associate level.

4        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 3.** The college board, using funds appropriated  
5 therefor, may award economic incentive grants for instructional  
6 programs that meet the demand of work force training for business and  
7 industry. Economic incentive grants may be used to fund proposals that  
8 emphasize collaboration between business, industry, and community and  
9 technical colleges. The criteria for awarding the grants must be  
10 uniform and applicable to all eligible colleges and the proposals shall  
11 meet the following conditions:

12        (1) The program shall be offered by two or more eligible community  
13 colleges and technical colleges;

14        (2) The participating colleges shall obtain a matching grant from  
15 business and industry that is equal to the amount of the state grant.

16        (3) The partnership between business, industry, and community and  
17 technical colleges shall be a cost-effective means to provide the  
18 training program;

19        (4) The program shall provide training for the regional work force;  
20 and

21        (5) The program shall meet the needs of the regional employers.

22        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 4.** The college board shall assure continuing  
23 evaluation of the effectiveness of the economic incentive grants  
24 authorized by section 3 of this act, and before December of each even-  
25 numbered year shall submit a report to the governor and legislature.  
26 In administering the grants, the college board shall require the use of  
27 appropriate fiscal procedures to ensure accountability of public funds.

28        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 5.** Sections 1 through 4 of this act are each  
29 added to chapter 28B.50 RCW.

30        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 6.** If any provision of this act or its  
31 application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the  
32 remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other  
33 persons or circumstances is not affected.

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