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SENATE BILL 5548

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State of Washington

62nd Legislature

2011 Regular Session

By Senators King and Keiser

Read first time 01/28/11. Referred to Committee on Health & Long-Term Care.

1 AN ACT Relating to increasing the number of primary health care  
2 providers in Washington; adding a new section to chapter 28B.115 RCW;  
3 and creating a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that a severe shortage  
6 of primary health care providers exists in Washington, particularly in  
7 rural and underserved areas of the state. The legislature further  
8 finds that an over reliance on specialty health care at the expense of  
9 primary care results in a health care system that is less efficient.  
10 The legislature further finds that institutions of higher education  
11 must produce more primary care providers. The legislature further  
12 finds that the efficient use of clinical sites for rotations and  
13 residencies will expand the supply of primary care providers. The  
14 legislature further finds that expanding residency programs in  
15 community health centers will increase residents' exposure to primary  
16 care practice.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.115  
18 RCW to read as follows:

1        Any entity receiving state funds may not prohibit a hospital or  
2 physician from entering into an agreement to provide student clinical  
3 rotations or residencies to qualified osteopathic or allopathic medical  
4 students.

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