

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5442**

Chapter 108, Laws of 2011

62nd Legislature  
2011 Regular Session

HIGHER EDUCATION--ACCELERATED BACCALAUREATE DEGREES

EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/22/11

Passed by the Senate March 7, 2011  
YEAS 46 NAYS 3

BRAD OWEN

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**President of the Senate**

Passed by the House April 6, 2011  
YEAS 91 NAYS 3

FRANK CHOPP

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**Speaker of the House of Representatives**

Approved April 18, 2011, 2:32 p.m.

CHRISTINE GREGOIRE

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**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

I, Thomas Hoemann, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5442** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

THOMAS HOEMANN

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**Secretary**

FILED

April 19, 2011

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5442**

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Passed Legislature - 2011 Regular Session

**State of Washington                      62nd Legislature                      2011 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Higher Education & Workforce Development (originally sponsored by Senators Shin, Tom, Kilmer, White, and Chase)

READ FIRST TIME 02/18/11.

1            AN ACT Relating to an accelerated baccalaureate degree program;  
2 adding a new section to chapter 28B.10 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 some students are  
5 eager to complete a degree in the shortest time possible in order to  
6 enter the job market. The legislature further finds that providing a  
7 streamlined path to a baccalaureate degree would shorten the time  
8 required for students to complete a degree, improve the graduation  
9 rate, and improve accessibility for students who have proven academic  
10 abilities. The legislature intends to provide an accelerated  
11 baccalaureate degree program that will allow academically qualified  
12 students to obtain baccalaureate degrees in three years. The  
13 legislature finds that this streamlined path does not represent a new  
14 three-year standard for all students. The legislature intends to  
15 provide greater options to students, while not diminishing the quality  
16 or value of a standard baccalaureate degree. Further, the legislature  
17 intends that baccalaureate institutions explore reasonable  
18 possibilities for accelerated degree programs for academically  
19 qualified students.

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

3        (1) State universities, regional universities, and The Evergreen  
4   State College may develop accelerated baccalaureate degree programs  
5   that will allow academically qualified students to obtain a  
6   baccalaureate degree in three years without attending summer classes or  
7   enrolling in more than a full-time class load during the regular  
8   academic year. The programs must allow academically qualified students  
9   to begin course work within their academic field during their first  
10   term or semester of enrollment.

11        (2) The state universities, regional universities, and The  
12   Evergreen State College shall report on their plans for the accelerated  
13   baccalaureate degree programs to the higher education coordinating  
14   board for approval.

      Passed by the Senate March 7, 2011.

      Passed by the House April 6, 2011.

      Approved by the Governor April 18, 2011.

      Filed in Office of Secretary of State April 19, 2011.