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SENATE BILL 6189

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State of Washington

64th Legislature

2016 Regular Session

By Senators McCoy, Rolfes, Hasegawa, Chase, Conway, Lias, Roach, Fraser, McAuliffe, Jayapal, Frockt, and Darneille

Prefiled 01/08/16. Read first time 01/11/16. Referred to Committee on Higher Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to requiring teacher preparation programs to  
2 integrate Native American curriculum developed by the office of the  
3 superintendent of public instruction into existing Pacific Northwest  
4 history and government requirements; amending RCW 28B.10.710; and  
5 creating a new section.

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

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the 2015  
8 legislature mandated common schools to use the Since Time Immemorial  
9 curriculum, developed by the office of the superintendent of public  
10 instruction and available free of charge. The legislature recognizes  
11 the need to extend the state's commitment to educate students about  
12 tribal sovereignty, history, culture, and treaty rights by requiring  
13 educator preparation programs to also use the Since Time Immemorial  
14 curriculum. The legislature intends the use of the curriculum to  
15 improve the understanding of students and educators about the past  
16 contributions of Indian nations to the state of Washington and the  
17 contemporary and ongoing tribal and state government relations.

18 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28B.10.710 and 2006 c 263 s 823 are each amended to  
19 read as follows:

1        (1)(a) There shall be a one quarter or semester course in either  
2 Washington state history and government, or Pacific Northwest history  
3 and government in the curriculum of all (~~teachers' colleges and~~  
4 ~~teachers' courses in all institutions of higher education~~) teacher  
5 preparation programs.

6        (b) No person shall be graduated from any of said (~~schools~~)  
7 programs without completing said course of study, unless otherwise  
8 determined by the Washington professional educator standards board.

9        (2) Any course in Washington state or Pacific Northwest history  
10 and government used to fulfill (~~this~~) the requirement in subsection  
11 (1) of this section shall include information on the culture,  
12 history, and government of the American Indian peoples who were the  
13 first human inhabitants of the state and the region.

14        (3) Teacher preparation programs shall meet the requirements of  
15 this section by integrating the curriculum developed and made  
16 available free of charge by the office of the superintendent of  
17 public instruction into existing programs or courses and may modify  
18 that curriculum in order to incorporate elements that have a  
19 regionally specific focus.

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