
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1561

State of Washington

65th Legislature

2017 Regular Session

By House Higher Education (originally sponsored by Representatives Frame, Pollet, Doglio, Kloba, Bergquist, Kilduff, Stanford, Dolan, Peterson, Stonier, Senn, Slatter, Fey, Lovick, Macri, Tarleton, Tharinger, Sawyer, Goodman, and Farrell)

READ FIRST TIME 02/13/17.

1 AN ACT Relating to open educational resources; and adding a new
2 section to chapter 28B.10 RCW.

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

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

6 (1) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this
7 section unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

8 (a) "Campus coordinator" means a designated facilitator to
9 promote, assist, and support the creation of open educational
10 resources by establishing and coordinating training seminars,
11 creating workshops, helping faculty and staff identify available
12 resources and funding, and cataloging and evaluating open educational
13 resources used or created by an institution of higher education's
14 faculty.

15 (b) "Open educational resources" means freely accessible, openly
16 licensed educational textbooks, documents, materials, and media that
17 reside in the public domain for free use and repurposing for the
18 intention of teaching, learning, assessing, and researching.

19 (2)(a) Subject to availability of amounts appropriated for this
20 specific purpose, the student achievement council shall administer
21 the open educational resources grant pilot program for the four-year

1 institutions of higher education. A grant received under the pilot
2 program must be used for either (a)(i) or (ii) of this subsection, or
3 both:

4 (i) Create a designated campus coordinator who will be the campus
5 lead and centralized contact regarding open educational resources; or

6 (ii) Support faculty to adopt or create open educational
7 resources for the purpose of reducing students' cost of attendance.

8 (b) The student achievement council shall develop an application
9 form for the grant, a process for reviewing and selecting grant
10 applicants, a process for awarding grant funding, and a process for
11 the grant awardee to report back to the student achievement council
12 on the use of the grant. The student achievement council shall
13 prioritize applications that estimate the highest cost reduction to
14 students, whether it be on an individual basis or across a field of
15 study or the institution.

16 (c) The student achievement council shall determine how many
17 grants may be awarded based on the funding received for the pilot
18 program.

19 (d) In addition to the grant program, the student achievement
20 council shall conduct outreach to other states and higher education
21 agencies to identify whether there is interest in establishing a
22 multistate open educational resources network to facilitate and
23 establish a platform for peer review, coordinating, and sharing of
24 open educational resources.

25 (e) The student achievement council shall report to the
26 appropriate committees of the legislature in accordance with the
27 reporting requirements in RCW 43.01.036 by December 1, 2018, on the
28 open educational resources grant pilot program and on the outreach
29 conducted regarding a multistate open educational resources network.
30 The report must include information on the number of grant
31 applications received, the number of grants awarded, and an
32 evaluation of how the grants were used to expand the use of open
33 educational resources. In addition, the report must include how the
34 student achievement council conducted outreach to other states on the
35 concept of a multistate open educational resources network and the
36 feedback from those states.

37 (3) By December 1, 2018, the Washington state institute for
38 public policy shall conduct a study on the cost of textbooks and
39 course materials and the use of open educational resources at four-
40 year institutions of higher education across the state and submit a

1 report to the appropriate committees of the legislature in accordance
2 with RCW 43.01.036. To the extent data are available, the study
3 should address:

4 (a) The types of and average cost per student for required
5 textbooks and course materials, including digital access codes and
6 bundled items, in the state, at each four-year institution of higher
7 education, and in specific degree programs;

8 (b) The use of open educational resources at four-year
9 institutions of higher education and in specific degree programs or
10 courses, or both; and

11 (c) Any other information regarding textbooks, course materials,
12 or open educational resources that the Washington state institute for
13 public policy deems relevant.

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