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HOUSE BILL 1768

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State of Washington                      65th Legislature                      2017 Regular Session

By Representatives Stambaugh, Holy, Bergquist, and Haler

Read first time 01/27/17. Referred to Committee on Appropriations.

1            AN ACT Relating to the Washington open educational resources  
2 pilot grant program at the state universities, regional universities,  
3 and The Evergreen State College; creating new sections; and providing  
4 an expiration date.

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

6            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.**    The legislature finds that the cost of  
7 textbooks is a barrier to higher education for many students. The  
8 state board for community and technical colleges through the open  
9 course library, and universities around the country through various  
10 open education material programs, have achieved significant cost  
11 savings for students. It is the intent of the legislature to create a  
12 pilot grant program to reduce costs for college students by  
13 supporting the public, four-year institutions of higher education in  
14 promoting, adapting, and creating open educational resources.

15            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 2.**    (1) Beginning in the 2017-18 academic  
16 year, the Washington open educational resources pilot grant program  
17 is established within the student achievement council to create a  
18 competitive grant program for the public four-year institutions of  
19 higher education to promote, adapt, and create open educational  
20 resources and reduce students' costs of attendance.

1 (2) Subject to funds appropriated specifically for this purpose,  
2 the student achievement council shall award up to six grants, each up  
3 to one hundred thousand dollars, for the purpose of promoting the  
4 development, adaptation, and use of open educational resources. The  
5 student achievement council shall develop a process for reviewing and  
6 selecting grant applications.

7 (3) The student achievement council shall report to the  
8 appropriate committees of the legislature by November 1, 2019, on:

9 (a) Which public four-year institutions of higher education  
10 received the grants;

11 (b) How the grant money was used to promote and expand the use of  
12 open educational resources; and

13 (c) An estimated cost savings to students as a result of the  
14 grants.

15 (4) This section expires June 30, 2020.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** If specific funding for the purposes of  
17 this act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not  
18 provided by June 30, 2017, in the omnibus appropriations act, this  
19 act is null and void.

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