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**SENATE BILL 6560**

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**State of Washington**

**66th Legislature**

**2020 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Wilson, C., Hunt, Salomon, Saldaña, Lias, Randall, Nguyen, Van De Wege, Das, Hasegawa, and Kuderer

Read first time 01/22/20. Referred to Committee on Higher Education & Workforce Development.

1 AN ACT Relating to studying the feasibility of postsecondary  
2 student housing within retirement facilities; adding a new section to  
3 chapter 28B.77 RCW; creating a new section; and providing an  
4 expiration date.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that as the housing  
7 affordability crisis continues, creative strategies and solutions  
8 must be considered. The legislature understands that two of the most  
9 critical ways to prevent the cycle of homelessness from continuing is  
10 to provide a formerly homeless individual shelter and the ability to  
11 pursue education. The legislature further acknowledges that both  
12 social isolation and loneliness in older adults is associated with  
13 increased mortality. The legislature finds that in order to properly  
14 help some of the state's most vulnerable residents, creative and  
15 unique solutions must be studied.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.77  
17 RCW to read as follows:

18 (1) Subject to the amounts appropriated for this specific  
19 purpose, the student achievement council shall study the feasibility

1 of developing a pilot program that would provide postsecondary  
2 students housing within a retirement facility.

3 (a) In developing the pilot program, the student achievement  
4 council shall consider the following:

5 (i) Legal barriers and potential liabilities;

6 (ii) Best practices from similar programs;

7 (iii) Requirements for accommodations to meet a postsecondary  
8 student's academic and basic needs, including access to  
9 transportation; and

10 (iv) Regional housing needs of postsecondary students.

11 (b) The student achievement council shall also identify  
12 postsecondary student placement options at retirement facilities in  
13 proximity to institutions of higher education.

14 (2) By December 1, 2020, the student achievement council shall  
15 submit to the appropriate higher education committees of the  
16 legislature a report of the study's findings with recommendations on  
17 the development of the pilot program.

18 (3) For the purposes of this section, the following definitions  
19 apply:

20 (a) "Postsecondary student" has the same meaning as "resident  
21 student" as defined in RCW 28B.15.012.

22 (b) "Retirement facility" includes nursing homes as defined in  
23 RCW 18.51.010, assisted living facilities as defined in RCW  
24 18.20.020, and other long-term care providers as determined by the  
25 student achievement council.

26 (4) This section expires July 1, 2021.

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