
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1036

State of Washington

69th Legislature

2025 Regular Session

By House Postsecondary Education & Workforce (originally sponsored by Representatives Ortiz-Self, Reed, Ramel, Doglio, Fosse, Peterson, Pollet, Nance, Berg, Ormsby, Scott, and Hill)

READ FIRST TIME 01/31/25.

1 AN ACT Relating to adding labor trustees to college boards;
2 amending RCW 28B.50.100, 28B.35.100, and 28B.40.100; and providing an
3 effective date.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28B.50.100 and 2013 c 23 s 58 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (1) There is hereby created a board of trustees for each college
8 district as set forth in this chapter. Each board of trustees shall
9 be composed of five trustees, except as provided in RCW 28B.50.102,
10 who shall be appointed by the governor for terms commencing October
11 1st of the year in which appointed. In making such appointments, the
12 governor shall give consideration to geographical diversity, and
13 representing labor, business, women, and racial and ethnic
14 minorities, in the membership of the boards of trustees. The boards
15 of trustees for districts (~~containing technical colleges~~) shall
16 include at least one member from business and one member from labor.

17 (2) The successors of the trustees initially appointed shall be
18 appointed by the governor to serve for a term of five years except
19 that any person appointed to fill a vacancy occurring prior to the
20 expiration of any term shall be appointed only for the remainder of

1 the term. Each member shall serve until a successor is appointed and
2 qualified.

3 (3) Every trustee shall be a resident and qualified elector of
4 the college district. No trustee may be an employee of the community
5 and technical college system, a member of the board of directors of
6 any school district, or a member of the governing board of any public
7 or private educational institution.

8 (4) Each board of trustees shall organize itself by electing a
9 chair from its members. The board shall adopt a seal and may adopt
10 such bylaws, rules, and regulations as it deems necessary for its own
11 government. Three members of the board shall constitute a quorum, but
12 a lesser number may adjourn from time to time and may compel the
13 attendance of absent members in such manner as prescribed in its
14 bylaws, rules, or regulations. The district president, or if there be
15 none, the president of the college, shall serve as, or may designate
16 another person to serve as, the secretary of the board, who shall not
17 be deemed to be a member of the board.

18 (5) Each board of trustees shall follow procedures for open
19 public meetings in chapter 42.30 RCW. Each board shall provide time
20 for public comment at each meeting.

21 (6) Members of the boards of trustees may be removed for
22 misconduct or malfeasance in office in the manner provided by RCW
23 28B.10.500.

24 (7) The college board may adopt rules to clarify the appointment
25 process for districts.

26 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28B.35.100 and 2006 c 78 s 3 are each amended to
27 read as follows:

28 (1) The governance of each of the regional universities shall be
29 vested in a board of trustees consisting of eight members, one of
30 whom shall be a student and one of whom shall be a member from labor.
31 No trustee may be an employee of the higher education system, a
32 member of the board of directors of any institution of higher
33 education, or a member of the governing board of any public or
34 private educational institution. The governor shall select the
35 student member from a list of candidates, of at least three and not
36 more than five, submitted by the governing body of the associated
37 students. They shall be appointed by the governor with the consent of
38 the senate and, except for the student member, shall hold their
39 offices for a term of six years from the first day of October and

1 until their successors are appointed and qualified. The student
2 member shall hold his or her office for a term of one year from the
3 first day of July and until the first day of July of the following
4 year or until his or her successor is appointed and qualified,
5 whichever is later. The student member shall be a full-time student
6 in good standing at the respective university at the time of
7 appointment.

8 (2) Five members of the board constitute a quorum for the
9 transaction of business. In case of a vacancy, or when an appointment
10 is made after the date of expiration of the term, the governor shall
11 fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term of the trustee whose
12 office has become vacant or expired.

13 (3) Except for the term of the student member, no more than the
14 terms of two members will expire simultaneously on the last day of
15 September in any one year.

16 (4) A student appointed under this section shall excuse himself
17 or herself from participation or voting on matters relating to the
18 hiring, discipline, or tenure of faculty members and personnel.

19 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28B.40.100 and 2006 c 78 s 4 are each amended to
20 read as follows:

21 (1) The governance of The Evergreen State College shall be vested
22 in a board of trustees consisting of eight members, one of whom shall
23 be a student and one of whom shall be a member from labor. No trustee
24 may be an employee of the higher education system, a member of the
25 board of directors of any institution of higher education, or a
26 member of the governing board of any public or private educational
27 institution. The governor shall select the student member from a list
28 of candidates, of at least three and not more than five, submitted by
29 the student body. They shall be appointed by the governor with the
30 consent of the senate and, except for the student member, shall hold
31 their offices for a term of six years from the first day of October
32 and until their successors are appointed and qualified. The student
33 member shall hold his or her office for a term of one year from the
34 first day of July and until the first day of July of the following
35 year or until his or her successor is appointed and qualified,
36 whichever is later. The student member shall be a full-time student
37 in good standing at the college at the time of appointment.

38 (2) Five members of the board constitute a quorum for the
39 transaction of business. In case of a vacancy, or when an appointment

1 is made after the date of expiration of the term, the governor shall
2 fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term of the trustee whose
3 office has become vacant or expired.

4 (3) Except for the term of the student member, no more than the
5 terms of two members will expire simultaneously on the last day of
6 September in any one year.

7 (4) A student appointed under this section shall excuse himself
8 or herself from participation or voting on matters relating to the
9 hiring, discipline, or tenure of faculty members and personnel.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act takes effect October 1, 2030.

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