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SENATE BILL 5966

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State of Washington

54th Legislature

1995 Regular Session

By Senators Bauer and Kohl

Read first time 02/17/95. Referred to Committee on Higher Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to the Washington award for vocational excellence;  
2 amending RCW 28C.04.520, 28C.04.525, 28C.04.530, 28C.04.535,  
3 28C.04.540, 28C.04.545, and 28B.15.545; adding a new section to chapter  
4 28C.04 RCW; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 28C.04 RCW  
7 to read as follows:

8 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in  
9 this section apply throughout RCW 28C.04.520 through 28C.04.550 and  
10 28B.15.545.

11 (1) "Independent college or university" means a private, nonprofit  
12 educational institution, the main campus of which is permanently  
13 situated in the state, open to residents of the state, providing  
14 programs of education beyond the high school level leading at least to  
15 the baccalaureate degree, and accredited by the Northwest association  
16 of schools and colleges as of June 9, 1988, and other institutions as  
17 may be developed that are approved by the higher education coordinating  
18 board as meeting equivalent standards as those accredited institutions  
19 qualifying under this section.

1 (2) "Licensed" means fulfilling the requirements specified in RCW  
2 28C.10.060.

3 (3) "Private vocational school" means any location where an entity  
4 is offering postsecondary education in any form or manner for the  
5 purpose of instructing, training, or preparing persons for any vocation  
6 or profession as defined in RCW 28C.10.020.

7 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28C.04.520 and 1984 c 267 s 1 are each amended to read  
8 as follows:

9 Every year community colleges, (~~vocational-technical institutes~~)  
10 technical colleges, and high schools graduate students who have  
11 distinguished themselves by their outstanding performance in their  
12 occupational training programs. The legislature intends to recognize  
13 and honor these students by establishing a Washington award for  
14 vocational excellence.

15 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28C.04.525 and 1987 c 231 s 3 are each amended to read  
16 as follows:

17 The Washington award for vocational excellence program is  
18 established. The purposes of this annual program are to:

19 (1) Maximize public awareness of the achievements, leadership  
20 ability, and community contributions of the state's public  
21 (~~vocational-technical~~) technical college students;

22 (2) Emphasize the dignity of work in our society;

23 (3) Instill respect for those who become skilled in crafts and  
24 technology;

25 (4) Recognize the value of vocational education and its  
26 contribution to the economy of this state;

27 (5) Foster business, labor, and community involvement in  
28 vocational-technical training programs and in this award program; and

29 (6) Recognize the outstanding achievements of up to three  
30 vocational or technical students, at least two of whom should be  
31 graduating high school students, in each legislative district.  
32 Students who have completed at least one year of a vocational-technical  
33 program in a community college or public (~~vocational-technical~~  
34 institute) technical college may also be recognized.

35 **Sec. 4.** RCW 28C.04.530 and 1987 c 231 s 2 are each amended to read  
36 as follows:

1       (1) The (~~commission for vocational education or a successor~~  
2 ~~agency~~) work force training and education coordinating board shall  
3 have the responsibility for the development and administration of the  
4 Washington award for vocational excellence program. The (~~commission~~  
5 ~~or successor agency~~) work force training and education coordinating  
6 board shall develop the program in consultation with other state  
7 agencies and private organizations having interest and responsibility  
8 in vocational education, including but not limited to: The state board  
9 for community and technical colleges (~~education~~), the office of the  
10 superintendent of public instruction, a voluntary professional  
11 association of vocational educators, and representatives from business,  
12 labor, and industry.

13       (2) The (~~commission or successor agency~~) work force training and  
14 education coordinating board shall establish a planning committee to  
15 develop the criteria for screening and selecting the students who will  
16 receive the award. This criteria shall include but not be limited to  
17 the following characteristics: Proficiency in their chosen fields,  
18 attendance, attitude, character, leadership, and civic contributions.

19       **Sec. 5.** RCW 28C.04.535 and 1984 c 267 s 4 are each amended to read  
20 as follows:

21       The Washington award for vocational excellence shall be granted  
22 annually. The (~~commission~~) work force training and education  
23 coordinating board shall notify the students receiving the award, their  
24 vocational instructors, local chambers of commerce, the legislators of  
25 their respective districts, and the governor, after final selections  
26 have been made. The (~~commission~~) work force training and education  
27 coordinating board, in conjunction with the governor's office, shall  
28 prepare appropriate certificates to be presented to the selected  
29 students. Awards shall be presented in public ceremonies at times and  
30 places determined by the (~~commission~~) work force training and  
31 education coordinating board in cooperation with the office of the  
32 governor.

33       **Sec. 6.** RCW 28C.04.540 and 1984 c 267 s 5 are each amended to read  
34 as follows:

35       The (~~commission~~) work force training and education coordinating  
36 board may accept any and all donations, grants, bequests, and devices,  
37 conditional or otherwise, or money, property, service, or other things

1 of value which may be received from any federal, state, or local  
2 agency, any institution, person, firm, or corporation, public and  
3 private, to be held, used, or applied for the purposes of the  
4 Washington award for vocational excellence program. The ((~~commission~~))  
5 work force training and education coordinating board shall encourage  
6 maximum participation from business, labor, and community groups. The  
7 ((~~commission~~)) work force training and education coordinating board  
8 shall also coordinate, where feasible, the contribution activities of  
9 the various participants.

10 The ((~~commission~~)) work force training and education coordinating  
11 board shall not make expenditures from funds collected under this  
12 section until February 15, 1985.

13 **Sec. 7.** RCW 28C.04.545 and 1987 c 231 s 4 are each amended to read  
14 as follows:

15 The respective governing boards of the ((~~public vocational~~  
16 ~~technical institutes shall provide fee waivers for a maximum of two~~  
17 ~~years for recipients of the Washington award for vocational excellence~~  
18 ~~established under RCW 28C.04.520 through 28C.04.540. To qualify for~~  
19 ~~the waiver, recipients shall enter the public vocational technical~~  
20 ~~institute within three years of receiving the award. An above average~~  
21 ~~rating at the vocational technical institute in the first year shall be~~  
22 ~~required to qualify for the second year waiver~~)) institutions of higher  
23 education as defined in RCW 28B.10.016 shall waive tuition and services  
24 and activities fees for a maximum of two years for recipients named  
25 before June 30, 1994, of the Washington award for vocational excellence  
26 established under RCW 28C.04.520 through 28C.04.550.

27 (1) To qualify for the waiver, recipients shall enter the  
28 institution of higher education within three years of receiving the  
29 award. A minimum grade point average at the college or university  
30 equivalent to 3.00, or an above average rating at a technical college,  
31 is required in the first year to qualify for the second-year waiver.  
32 The tuition waiver shall be granted for undergraduate studies only.

33 (2) Students named as recipients of the award after June 30, 1994,  
34 shall be eligible to receive a grant for undergraduate coursework as  
35 authorized under this section.

36 (3) Recipients of the Washington award for vocational excellence  
37 named after June 30, 1994, who choose to attend a licensed private

1 vocational school or independent college or university in this state  
2 may receive grant moneys under this section.

3 (4) The work force training and education coordinating board shall  
4 distribute grants to eligible students under this section from moneys  
5 appropriated for this purpose. The individual grants shall not exceed,  
6 on a yearly basis, the yearly full-time resident undergraduate tuition  
7 and services and activities fees in effect at the state-funded research  
8 universities.

9 (5) To qualify for the grant, recipients shall enter the in-state  
10 private vocational school, independent college, or institution of  
11 higher education within three years of high school graduation. A  
12 minimum grade point average at the college or university equivalent to  
13 3.00, or an above average rating at a technical college, is required in  
14 the first year to qualify for the second-year grant.

15 **Sec. 8.** RCW 28B.15.545 and 1993 sp.s. c 18 s 20 are each amended  
16 to read as follows:

17 Subject to the limitations of RCW 28B.15.910, the governing boards  
18 of the state universities, the regional universities, The Evergreen  
19 State College, and the community colleges shall waive tuition and  
20 services and activities fees for a maximum of two years for those  
21 recipients of the Washington award for vocational excellence  
22 established under RCW 28C.04.520 through 28C.04.540 who received their  
23 awards before June 30, 1994. ~~((The governing boards may waive all or~~  
24 ~~a portion of tuition and services and activities fees for those~~  
25 ~~recipients of the Washington award for vocational excellence who~~  
26 ~~received their awards after June 30, 1994. Each recipient shall not~~  
27 ~~receive a waiver for more than six quarters or four semesters. To~~  
28 ~~qualify for the waiver, recipients shall enter the college or~~  
29 ~~university within three years of receiving the award. A minimum grade~~  
30 ~~point average at the college or university equivalent to 3.00, or an~~  
31 ~~above-average rating at a technical college, shall be required in the~~  
32 ~~first year to qualify for the second year waiver. The tuition waiver~~  
33 ~~shall be granted for undergraduate studies only.))~~

34 (1) To qualify for the waiver, recipients shall enter the  
35 institution of higher education as defined in RCW 28B.10.016 within  
36 three years of receiving the award. A minimum grade point average at  
37 the college or university equivalent to 3.00, or an above average  
38 rating at a technical college, is required in the first year to qualify

1 for the second-year waiver. The tuition waiver shall be granted for  
2 undergraduate studies only.

3 (2) Students named as recipients of the award after June 30, 1994,  
4 shall be eligible to receive a grant for undergraduate coursework as  
5 authorized under this section.

6 (3) Recipients of the Washington award for vocational excellence  
7 named after June 30, 1994, who choose to attend a licensed private  
8 vocational school or independent college or university in this state  
9 may receive grant moneys under this section.

10 (4) The work force training and education coordinating board shall  
11 distribute grants to eligible students under this section from moneys  
12 appropriated for this purpose. The individual grants shall not exceed,  
13 on a yearly basis, the yearly full-time resident undergraduate tuition  
14 and services and activities fees in effect at the state-funded research  
15 universities.

16 (5) To qualify for the grant under this section, recipients shall  
17 enter the in-state private vocational school, independent college, or  
18 institution of higher education within three years of high school  
19 graduation. A minimum grade point average at the college or university  
20 equivalent to 3.00, or an above average rating at a technical college,  
21 is required in the first year to qualify for the second-year grant.

22 NEW SECTION. Sec. 9. If any provision of this act or its  
23 application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the  
24 remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other  
25 persons or circumstances is not affected.

26 NEW SECTION. Sec. 10. This act is necessary for the immediate  
27 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the  
28 state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take  
29 effect July 1, 1995.

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