

SENATE BILL REPORT

SHB 1048

As of March 26, 2013

Title: An act relating to higher education governance.

Brief Description: Regarding higher education governance.

Sponsors: House Committee on Higher Education (originally sponsored by Representatives Seaquist and Haler).

Brief History: Passed House: 3/05/13, 96-0.

Committee Activity: Higher Education: 3/26/13.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

Staff: Kimberly Cushing (786-7421)

Background: The Student Achievement Council (Council). The ten-member Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB) was established in 1985 to provide planning, coordination, monitoring, and policy analysis for higher education in the state in cooperation and consultation with the institutions and other segments of postsecondary education. In 2011, the Legislature abolished the HECB and transferred the student financial aid functions performed by the HECB to a newly created Office of Student Financial Assistance (Office).

In 2012, the Legislature established the nine-member Council to propose goals for increasing educational attainment in Washington and to monitor progress toward meeting those goals, propose improvements and innovations needed for educational attainment, and advocate for higher education. The Office is under the direction of the Council.

The Joint Higher Education Committee (Committee). In 2012, the Legislature also created the Committee to annually review the work of the Council and provide legislative feedback; create greater communication, coordination, and alignment between the higher education system and expectations of the Legislature; and provide recommendations for higher education policy. The Committee must meet at least twice after the close of session and is made up of four senators and four representatives.

Summary of Bill: The Committee is eliminated and references in statute to the Committee are removed.

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Technical corrections are made to replace references to the HECB with the Council. Two statutes are recodified in the Council's chapter. A technical correction is made to align dates.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Committee/Commission/Task Force Created: No.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

Staff Summary of Public Testimony: None.

Persons Testifying: No one.