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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6370**

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**State of Washington**

**63rd Legislature**

**2014 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Higher Education (originally sponsored by Senators King, Eide, and Kohl-Welles)

READ FIRST TIME 02/07/14.

1       AN ACT Relating to a tuition and fees exemption for children and  
2 surviving spouses of certain highway workers; and amending RCW  
3 28B.15.380.

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

5       **Sec. 1.** RCW 28B.15.380 and 2012 c 229 s 703 are each amended to  
6 read as follows:

7       Subject to the limitations of RCW 28B.15.910, the governing boards  
8 of the state universities, the regional universities, and The Evergreen  
9 State College shall exempt the following students from the payment of  
10 all tuition fees and services and activities fees:

11       (1) Children of any law enforcement officer as defined in chapter  
12 41.26 RCW, firefighter as defined in chapter 41.26 or 41.24 RCW,  
13 highway worker, or Washington state patrol officer who lost his or her  
14 life or became totally disabled in the line of duty while employed by  
15 any public law enforcement agency or full-time or volunteer fire  
16 department in this state, or was a highway worker while employed by a  
17 transportation agency: PROVIDED, That such persons may receive the  
18 exemption only if they begin their course of study at a state-supported

1 college or university within ten years of their graduation from high  
2 school; and

3 (2) Surviving spouses of any law enforcement officer as defined in  
4 chapter 41.26 RCW, firefighter as defined in chapter 41.26 or 41.24  
5 RCW, highway worker, or Washington state patrol officer who lost his or  
6 her life or became totally disabled in the line of duty while employed  
7 by any public law enforcement agency or full-time or volunteer fire  
8 department in this state, or was a highway worker while employed by a  
9 transportation agency.

10 (3) The governing boards of the state universities, the regional  
11 universities, and The Evergreen State College shall report to the  
12 education data center on the annual cost of tuition fees and services  
13 and activities fees waived for surviving spouses and children under  
14 this section. The education data center shall consolidate the reports  
15 of the waived fees and annually report to the appropriate fiscal and  
16 policy committees of the legislature.

17 (4) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this  
18 section.

19 (a) "Highway worker" means:

20 (i) Any person who is an employee of a transportation agency and  
21 who is actively employed as such; or

22 (ii) Supervisory highway maintenance and construction personnel.

23 (b) "Transportation agency" means any agency, department, or  
24 division of a municipal corporation, political subdivision, or other  
25 unit of local government in this state, and any agency, department, or  
26 division of state government, having as its primary function the  
27 construction, maintenance, and operation of the highways and roads, or  
28 ferries within the state of Washington. Such an agency, department, or  
29 division is distinguished from a transit agency having as one of its  
30 functions the highway maintenance, including but not limited to the  
31 state department of transportation. A transportation agency under this  
32 section does not include a government contractor.

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