
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5702

State of Washington

68th Legislature

2023 Regular Session

By Senate Higher Education & Workforce Development (originally sponsored by Senators Trudeau, Nobles, Dhingra, Hunt, Lias, Lovelett, Nguyen, Pedersen, Saldaña, Valdez, and C. Wilson)

READ FIRST TIME 02/17/23.

1 AN ACT Relating to expanding the students experiencing
2 homelessness and foster youth pilot program; and amending RCW
3 28B.50.916 and 28B.77.850.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28B.50.916 and 2021 c 62 s 1 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (1) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this
8 specific purpose, ~~((the college board shall select eight college
9 districts, with no less than four located outside of the Puget Sound
10 region to participate in a pilot))~~ each community and technical
11 college may implement a program to provide assistance to students
12 experiencing homelessness and to students who were in the foster care
13 system when they graduated high school. The ~~((college districts
14 chosen to participate in the pilot program))~~ community and technical
15 colleges must provide certain accommodations to these students that
16 may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 17 (a) Access to laundry facilities;
18 (b) Access to storage;
19 (c) Access to locker room and shower facilities;
20 (d) Reduced-price meals or meal plans, and access to food banks;
21 (e) Access to technology;

1 (f) Access to short-term housing or housing assistance,
2 especially during seasonal breaks; and

3 (g) Case management services.

4 (2) The ~~((college districts))~~ community and technical colleges
5 may also establish plans to develop surplus property for affordable
6 housing to accommodate the needs of students experiencing
7 homelessness and students who were in the foster care system when
8 they graduated high school.

9 (3) The ~~((college districts))~~ community and technical colleges
10 participating in the ~~((pilot))~~ program shall leverage existing
11 community resources by making available to students in the ~~((pilot))~~
12 program information that is available for individuals experiencing
13 homelessness, including through not-for-profit organizations, the
14 local housing authority, and the department of commerce's office of
15 homeless youth.

16 (4) The ~~((college districts participating in the pilot program))~~
17 community and technical colleges shall annually provide a joint
18 report to the appropriate committees of the legislature ~~((by))~~ in
19 accordance with RCW 43.01.036 beginning December 1, 2023, that
20 includes at least the following information:

21 (a) The number of students experiencing homelessness or food
22 insecurity, and the number of students who were in the foster care
23 system when they graduated high school who ~~((were attending))~~
24 attended a community or technical college during the ~~((pilot))~~
25 program. The college board shall coordinate with all of the community
26 and technical colleges to collect voluntary data on how many students
27 experiencing homelessness or food insecurity are attending the
28 community and technical colleges;

29 (b) The number of students assisted by the ~~((pilot))~~ program;

30 (c) Strategies for accommodating students experiencing
31 homelessness or food insecurity, and former foster care students; and

32 (d) Legislative recommendations for how students experiencing
33 homelessness or food insecurity, and former foster care students
34 could be better served.

35 (5) ~~((The college districts not selected to participate in the~~
36 ~~pilot program are:~~

37 ~~(a) Invited to participate voluntarily; and~~

38 ~~(b) Encouraged to submit the data required of the pilot program~~
39 ~~participants under subsection (4) of this section, regardless of~~
40 ~~participation status.~~

1 ~~(6) The pilot program expires July 1, 2024.~~

2 ~~(7) This section expires January 1, 2025))~~ For purposes of this
3 section, "program" means the students experiencing homelessness and
4 foster youth program.

5 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28B.77.850 and 2021 c 62 s 2 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (1) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this
8 specific purpose, ~~((the council shall select four public four-year~~
9 ~~institutions of higher education, two on each side of the crest of~~
10 ~~the Cascade mountain range, to participate in a pilot))~~ each public
11 four-year institution of higher education and the tribal college may
12 implement a program to provide assistance to students experiencing
13 homelessness and to students who were in the foster care system when
14 they graduated high school. The ~~((four-year institutions of higher~~
15 ~~education chosen to participate in the pilot))~~ program must provide
16 certain accommodations to these students that may include, but are
17 not limited to, the following:

18 (a) Access to laundry facilities;

19 (b) Access to storage;

20 (c) Access to locker room and shower facilities;

21 (d) Reduced-price meals or meal plans, and access to food banks;

22 (e) Access to technology;

23 (f) Access to short-term housing or housing assistance,
24 especially during seasonal breaks; and

25 (g) Case management services.

26 (2) The four-year institutions of higher education and the tribal
27 college may also establish plans to develop surplus property for
28 affordable housing to accommodate the needs of students experiencing
29 homelessness and students who were in the foster care system when
30 they graduated high school.

31 (3) The four-year institutions of higher education and the tribal
32 college participating in the ~~((pilot))~~ program shall leverage
33 existing community resources by making available to students in the
34 ~~((pilot))~~ program information that is available for individuals
35 experiencing homelessness, including through not-for-profit
36 organizations, the local housing authority, and the department of
37 commerce's office of homeless youth.

38 (4) The four-year institutions of higher education and the tribal
39 college participating in the ~~((pilot))~~ program shall annually provide

1 a joint report to the appropriate committees of the legislature
2 ~~((by))~~ in accordance with RCW 43.01.036 beginning December 1, 2023,
3 that includes at least the following information:

4 (a) The number of students experiencing homelessness or food
5 insecurity, and the number of students who were in the foster care
6 system when they graduated high school who ~~((were—attending))~~
7 attended a four-year institution of higher education or the tribal
8 college during the ~~((pilot))~~ program. The council shall coordinate
9 with all of the four-year institutions of higher education and the
10 tribal college to collect voluntary data on how many students
11 experiencing homelessness or food insecurity are attending the four-
12 year institutions of higher education and the tribal college;

13 (b) The number of students assisted by the ~~((pilot))~~ program;

14 (c) Strategies for accommodating students experiencing
15 homelessness or food insecurity, and former foster care students; and

16 (d) Legislative recommendations for how students experiencing
17 homelessness or food insecurity, and former foster care students
18 could be better served.

19 ~~(5) ((The four-year institutions of higher education not selected~~
20 ~~to participate in the pilot program are:~~

21 ~~(a) Invited to participate voluntarily; and~~

22 ~~(b) Encouraged to submit the data required of the pilot program~~
23 ~~participants under subsection (4) of this section, regardless of~~
24 ~~participation status.~~

25 ~~(6) The pilot program expires July 1, 2024.~~

26 ~~(7) This section expires January 1, 2025))~~ For purposes of this
27 section, "program" means the students experiencing homelessness and
28 foster youth program.

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