

SENATE BILL REPORT

SHB 1598

AS REPORTED BY COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION, APRIL 4, 1991

Brief Description: Enhancing the future teacher conditional scholarship program.

SPONSORS: House Committee on Higher Education (originally sponsored by Representatives Basich, Jacobsen, Hine, Peery, Hargrove, Sheldon, Jones, H. Myers, Winsley and G. Fisher).

HOUSE COMMITTEE HIGHER EDUCATION

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

Majority Report: Do pass.

Signed by Senators Saling, Chairman; Patterson, Vice Chairman; Bauer, Bluechel, Jesernig, Skratek, Stratton, and von Reichbauer.

Staff: Jean Six (786-7423)

Hearing Dates: April 1, 1991; April 4, 1991

BACKGROUND:

The Future Teachers' Conditional Scholarship Program was established in 1987. The program was designed to attract academically proficient students, including students who can act as role models for students from minority backgrounds, into the teaching profession. High school seniors and college students who intend to teach are eligible to participate. Participants may receive up to \$3,000 per year to attend an accredited college or university in the state of Washington. Students are eligible to receive a conditional scholarship for a maximum of five years.

Students incur an obligation to repay the scholarship, with interest, unless they teach in Washington's public schools for 10 years.

North Carolina has a similar program. However, in the North Carolina Teaching Fellows Program, participants receive special programs, activities, and seminars. These special events are designed both to enrich the students' college educations and to give them a chance to work closely with excellent teachers in the common schools.

SUMMARY:

The way that a scholarship recipient may meet his or her service obligation is expanded. A recipient may either teach in the public schools for 10 years, or the recipient may teach

in an approved education program for the same length of time. Approved education programs are education programs offered in Washington by the federal government, public schools, Indian tribes, or community colleges. The programs include, but are not limited to: Head Start, early childhood education, developmental education, educational clinics, English as a Second Language, and basic skills.

Each four-year college and university educating scholarship recipients is strongly encouraged to provide scholarship recipients with a program designed to enrich the recipients' college experiences and to encourage them to enter the teaching profession. The Higher Education Coordinating Board will consult with the institutions on each enrichment program.

While each institution's program may vary, some suggested elements are described. These elements include providing participants with faculty mentors, and with special programs, seminars, events and activities. Participants may also receive opportunities that will help them to develop leadership skills. Other recommended components include internships and cooperative ventures with the common schools.

Appropriation: none

Revenue: none

Fiscal Note: available

TESTIMONY FOR: None

TESTIMONY AGAINST: None

TESTIFIED: Representative Basich, original sponsor (pro)