

1 1603-S.E AMS HIE S2906.1

2 ESHB 1603 - S COMM AMD
3 By Committee on Higher Education

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5 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
6 following:

7 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** This act shall be known as the college
8 promise act.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** It is the intent of the legislature to
10 restructure and fully fund the state's system of financial aid. The
11 restructured financial aid system shall be known as college promise.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) The higher education coordinating board
13 shall restructure the state's financial aid programs into a
14 comprehensive and coordinated system of assistance known as college
15 promise. College promise shall expand and modify three existing
16 programs for needy students: The state need grant program under RCW
17 28B.10.790 through 28B.10.824; the state work study program under
18 chapter 28B.12 RCW; and the educational opportunity grant program under
19 chapter 28B.101 RCW. In addition, college promise may include a
20 demonstration project to assist needy students whose parents did not
21 complete a degree or certificate from an institution of higher
22 education. College promise shall be implemented beginning in the 1995-
23 96 academic year.

24 (2) By January 1, 1994, the higher education coordinating board, in
25 consultation with the house of representatives and senate higher
26 education and fiscal committees, and the institutions of higher
27 education, shall develop a detailed implementation plan for college
28 promise. In preparing the plan, the board shall follow the goals and
29 priorities set forth in sections 4 and 5 of this act. The plan shall
30 include, but not be limited to:

31 (a) Specific program eligibility measures and application
32 procedures for the new populations of state financial aid recipients
33 identified in section 5 of this act;

1 (b) Specific need analysis criteria and asset protection
2 allowances;

3 (c) Estimates of how many state residents, both those who are
4 currently enrolled in a college or university, and those not currently
5 enrolled, would be eligible and would apply for aid under the expanded
6 eligibility criteria identified in section 5 of this act. The
7 estimates, developed in consultation with the office of financial
8 management, the office of the superintendent of public instruction, and
9 other agencies as appropriate, shall take into account state economic
10 and demographic factors and other appropriate information;

11 (d) Estimates of where the new aid applicants identified under (c)
12 of this subsection would choose to enroll by type of institution and
13 level of program; and

14 (e) Estimates of the costs for each state financial aid program,
15 including the state need grant program under RCW 28B.10.790 through
16 28B.10.824; the state work study program under chapter 28B.12 RCW; and
17 the educational opportunity grant program under chapter 28B.101 RCW to
18 accommodate any new aid applicants estimated under (c) of this
19 subsection, as offset by nonstate sources of aid. Separate cost
20 estimates shall be made for each of the new aid populations identified
21 under section 5 of this act.

22 (3) It is the intent of the legislature that the cost estimates
23 completed under subsection (2) of this section shall be the basis for
24 determining funding levels for state financial aid programs for each
25 year of the 1995-97 biennium.

26 (4) The methodologies used to estimate costs under subsection (2)
27 of this section shall be used for the annual cost estimates required
28 under section 6 of this act.

29 (5) The plan completed under subsection (2) of this section shall
30 be deemed approved on June 30, 1994, unless legislation is enacted to
31 alter the policies set forth in the plan. The board shall also propose
32 to the legislature any changes to the laws governing state financial
33 aid programs that it deems necessary to accomplish the purposes of
34 college promise.

35 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** In restructuring the state's financial aid
36 programs, the higher education coordinating board shall follow these
37 goals:

1 (1) For all need-based financial aid programs under RCW 28B.10.790
2 through 28B.10.824 and chapters 28B.12 and 28B.101 RCW:
3 (a) Through a mix of federal, state, and other resources:
4 (i) Limit the debt of an undergraduate student to no more than one-
5 half of a student's cost of attendance; and
6 (ii) Provide more self-help opportunities than grant aid to middle-
7 income students, and approximately equal amounts of self-help
8 opportunities and grant aid to low-income and lower middle-income
9 students. Self-help opportunities include work study and loans;
10 (b) In determining eligibility for state financial aid programs,
11 shelter home equity on a family's principal place of residence, and
12 shelter a reasonable portion of savings and farm or business net worth,
13 each insofar as is permissible under state and federal law;
14 (c) Consistent with federal law, simplify the financial aid
15 application process;
16 (d) Strive to preserve a range of educational options for needy
17 students, including choice of institutions and programs;
18 (e) Recognize otherwise unfunded equipment and assistance needed to
19 accommodate students with disabilities reasonably; and
20 (f) Deliver clear and timely information to current and future
21 postsecondary students about the costs of attending college and
22 available financial aid.
23 (2) For the state need grant program under RCW 28B.10.790 through
24 28B.10.824: As funds are available, expand the program to include new
25 populations of resident students in the following priority order,
26 ensuring that undergraduate students with the most demonstrated
27 financial need receive full grants before less needy students receive
28 any grant:
29 (a) Low-income undergraduates;
30 (b) Lower middle-income undergraduates;
31 (c) Middle-income undergraduates; and
32 (d) Resident graduate and professional students, following the
33 income priorities established for undergraduate students.
34 (3) For the state work study program under chapter 28B.12 RCW:
35 Increase employment opportunities including off-campus job
36 opportunities with off-campus community service employers.
37 (4) For students whose parents did not complete a higher education
38 degree or certificate: Determine the feasibility of providing grants
39 to needy first generation scholars.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** In administering the state student financial
2 aid program, also known as the state need grant program, under RCW
3 28B.10.790 through 28B.10.824, the higher education coordinating board
4 shall proceed substantially as follows unless it determines that a
5 modification is required in order to conform with federal law or to
6 improve the administration of the program, consistent with the purposes
7 of this chapter.

8 (1) Define and assist additional populations of needy students as
9 funding becomes available, in the priorities described in section 20 of
10 this act, and using income level classification definitions as
11 described in section 5 of this act.

12 (2) In calculating eligibility for aid, where not otherwise
13 inconsistent with federal or state law, shelter home equity on a
14 family's principal place of residence and shelter a reasonable amount
15 of savings and a reasonable portion of farm or business net worth, in
16 order to equitably evaluate family ability to pay.

17 (3) To the extent feasible, adjust the student budget of a needy
18 student with disabilities to reflect otherwise unfunded equipment or
19 assistance needed to reasonably accommodate the student in a
20 postsecondary education or training program.

21 **Sec. 8.** RCW 28B.101.040 and 1990 c 288 s 6 are each amended to
22 read as follows:

23 Grants may be used by eligible participants to attend any public or
24 private college or university in the state of Washington that is
25 accredited by an accrediting association recognized by rule of the
26 higher education coordinating board and that has an existing unused
27 capacity. Grants shall not be used to attend any branch campus or
28 educational program established under chapter 28B.45 RCW. The
29 participant shall not be eligible for a grant if it will be used for
30 any programs that include religious worship, exercise, or instruction
31 or to pursue a degree in theology. Each participating student may
32 receive up to two thousand five hundred dollars per academic year, not
33 to exceed the student's demonstrated financial need for the course of
34 study.

35 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.80 RCW
36 to read as follows:

1 With the exception of institutions of higher education as defined
2 in RCW 28B.10.016, any institution of postsecondary education that
3 enrolls students receiving state-funded financial aid shall: (1) For
4 Washington residents, match the total amount of the state financial aid
5 grant funds received by all enrolled students at that institution from
6 the state need grant and equal opportunity grant programs, with an
7 equal amount of institutionally raised grant funds from nongovernmental
8 sources, and (2) enter into new or honor existing transfer agreements
9 with institutions of higher education as defined in RCW 28B.10.016.
10 The higher education coordinating board shall adopt rules to implement
11 these requirements. The rules shall ensure that all institutional
12 matching grant funds go to students who are needy as defined in RCW
13 28B.10.802(3) and who are residents of the state of Washington.
14 "Residents of the state of Washington" means that the students would be
15 eligible to pay resident tuition rates under RCW 28B.15.011 through
16 28B.15.013 if they were enrolled at a state institution of higher
17 education as defined in RCW 28B.10.016.

18 **Sec. 10.** RCW 28B.12.040 and 1985 c 370 s 58 are each amended to
19 read as follows:

20 The higher education coordinating board shall develop and
21 administer the college work-study program and shall be authorized to
22 enter into agreements with employers and eligible institutions for the
23 operation of the program. These agreements shall include such
24 provisions as the higher education coordinating board may deem
25 necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of this chapter.

26 With the exception of off-campus community service placements, the
27 share from ((funds)) moneys disbursed under the college work-study
28 program of the compensation of students employed under such program in
29 accordance with such agreements shall not exceed eighty percent of the
30 total such compensation paid such students.

31 By rule, the board shall define community service placements and
32 may determine any salary matching requirements for any community
33 service employers.

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 11.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.80
35 RCW to read as follows:

36 The higher education coordinating board may design a demonstration
37 project to assist needy first generation college students to obtain

1 either a community or technical college degree or certificate, or a
2 baccalaureate degree. Through the project, a needy student, as defined
3 in RCW 28B.10.802(3), who attends a Washington institution of higher
4 education that is accredited by an accrediting association recognized
5 by the board by rule, and whose parents did not complete a degree or
6 certificate from an institution of higher education, may receive a
7 grant of up to fifteen hundred dollars per year, not to exceed the
8 student's documented need. The grant may be renewable each year, if
9 the student makes satisfactory academic progress. Grants awarded to
10 any one student shall not exceed a cumulative total of nine thousand
11 dollars for an individual pursuing a baccalaureate degree or five
12 thousand dollars for a student pursuing a community or technical
13 college degree or certificate. Before seeking funding for the program,
14 the board shall submit to the governor and the legislature a plan for
15 implementing the project. The plan shall include a provision for
16 verification of student eligibility to participate in the demonstration
17 project.

18 **Sec. 12.** RCW 28B.15.600 and 1991 c 164 s 5 are each amended to
19 read as follows:

20 The boards of regents of the state's universities and the boards of
21 trustees of the regional universities and The Evergreen State College
22 and community colleges may refund or cancel in full the tuition and
23 services and activities fees if the student withdraws from a university
24 or college course or program prior to the sixth day of instruction of
25 the quarter or semester for which said fees have been paid or are due.
26 If the student withdraws on or after the sixth day of instruction, said
27 boards of regents and trustees may refund or cancel up to one-half of
28 said fees, provided such withdrawal occurs within the first thirty
29 calendar days following the beginning of instruction. However, if
30 required by federal law in order to maintain eligibility for federal
31 funding of programs at the university or college, the regents or
32 trustees of the respective universities and colleges may adopt a refund
33 policy that meets the minimum requirements of such federal law, and
34 such policy may treat all students attending the institution in the
35 same manner. The regents or trustees of the respective universities
36 and colleges may adopt rules for the refund of tuition and fees for
37 courses or programs that begin after the start of the regular quarter
38 or semester. Said boards of regents and trustees may adopt rules to

1 comply with RCW 28B.15.623 and may extend the refund or cancellation
2 period for students who withdraw for medical reasons or who are called
3 into the military service of the United States.

4 Said boards of regents and trustees may refund other fees pursuant
5 to such rules as they may prescribe.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 13.** If any provision of this act or its
7 application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the
8 remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other
9 persons or circumstances is not affected.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 14.** Sections 2 through 7 of this act are each
11 added to chapter 28B.10 RCW."

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15 On page 1, line 1 of the title, after "education;" strike the
16 remainder of the title and insert "amending RCW 28B.101.040,
17 28B.12.040, and 28B.15.600; adding new sections to chapter 28B.10 RCW;
18 adding new sections to chapter 28B.80 RCW; and creating a new section."

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