S-4611.1   _____

SUBSTITUTE SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 8425
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State of Washington   56th Legislature   2000 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Higher Education (originally sponsored by Senators Kohl-Welles and Sheahan; by request of Higher Education Coordinating Board)

Read first time 02/04/2000.

1   WHEREAS, Chapter 370, Laws of 1985, created the Washington Higher
2 Education Coordinating Board to plan, coordinate, and provide policy
3 analysis for higher education and to represent the broad public
4 interest above the interests of individual colleges and universities;
5 and

6   WHEREAS, Section 4, chapter 370, Laws of 1985, requires the board
7 to prepare and update a master plan for higher education and requires
8 the Legislature, by concurrent resolution, to "approve or recommend
9 changes" to the master plan and its subsequent updates; and

10   WHEREAS, The provisions of the master plan that are approved by the
11 Legislature become state higher education policy unless legislation is
12 subsequently enacted to revise those policies; and

13   WHEREAS, The Washington Higher Education Coordinating Board
14 submitted the initial master plan to the Legislature in December 1987,
15 and submitted updates to the plan in December 1992, January 1996, and
16 January 2000; and

17   WHEREAS, During the process used to develop the 2000 master plan,
18 the board consulted with students and families, educators, business,
19 labor, and civic organizations representing a cross-section of
20 Washington citizens; and

1   WHEREAS, The board learned that the need and expectation for higher
2 education among Washington citizens will continue to grow through the
3 next decade, because of population increases as well as the demands of
4 the state's increasingly technology-based economy; and
5   WHEREAS, The board reported that Washington's public and private
6 colleges and universities and career schools would need to provide
7 opportunities for at least seventy thousand additional full-time
8 students by the year 2010, including at least fifty-two thousand five
9 hundred additional full-time enrollments in the public colleges and
10 universities; and
11   WHEREAS, The board has spelled out its commitment to continuing to
12 expand enrollment opportunities for Washington students, to keep public
13 higher education affordable for students and families, and to provide
14 financial assistance to those who cannot otherwise afford to go to
15 college; and
16   WHEREAS, The board identified five specific goals for the state to
17 address higher education needs in the next ten years:
18   (1) Making student learning the yardstick by which institutional
19 accountability, effectiveness, and efficiency is measured;
20   (2) Linking students' participation in higher education to their
21 achievement in the K-12 grades;
22   (3) Providing the information citizens need to make the best use of
23 the learning pathways available to them;
24   (4) Enhancing higher education opportunity through greater use of
25 e-learning technologies and by increasingly efficient use of public
26 facilities; and
27   (5) Helping colleges and universities meet student needs and
28 compete in an increasingly competitive and complex education
29 marketplace; and
30   WHEREAS, The board challenged itself, students, and families, the
31 public and private institutions, the private sector, and the state to
32 each accept its individual responsibilities and to collaborate in the
33 development of solutions; and
34   WHEREAS, The board described an implementation plan to guide the
35 state's response to the needs of higher education and to estimate the
36 costs of the strategies;
37   NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the Senate of the State of
38 Washington, the House of Representatives concurring, That the
39 Washington Higher Education Coordinating Board be commended for its

1 dedication and commitment to the State of Washington in producing the
2 2000 update of the master plan for higher education titled "The 21st
3 Century Learner"; and

4   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Legislature thank the board for
5 describing many of the challenges facing the state in its attempts to
6 provide the postsecondary education and training our citizens need to
7 fulfill their personal goals and participate fully in the world of the
8 twenty-first century; and

9   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Legislature approve the
10 recommendations of the 2000 update of the master plan:

11   (1) The goal that, by the year 2010, Washington's system of
12 postsecondary education needs to provide opportunities for at least
13 seventy thousand additional full-time equivalent students to enroll in
14 high-quality education and training programs;

15   (2) That solutions to the challenge may be found in strategies that
16 (a) make student learning the yardstick by which institutional
17 accountability, effectiveness, and efficiency is measured; and (b) link
18 students' participation in higher education to their achievement in the
19 K-12 grades;

20   (3) Provide the information citizens need to make the best use of
21 the learning pathways available to them, and support outreach efforts
22 designed to ensure that the higher education system reflects the
23 diversity of the state's population;

24   (4) Expand the use of e-learning technologies and use public
25 facilities to the fullest extent possible; and

26   (5) Help colleges and universities meet student needs and compete
27 in an increasingly competitive and complex education marketplace; and

28   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the board examine alternatives to
29 address the operating and capital budget needs that are identified in
30 the 2000 update of the master plan; and

31   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the board proceed with the
32 implementation of the 2000 update of the master plan as described in
33 "The 21st Century Learner" and report to the 2001 Legislature on
34 progress toward implementing its strategies.

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