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HOUSE BILL 1731

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State of Washington                      58th Legislature                      2003 Regular Session

By Representatives Kenney, Cox and Chase; by request of Higher Education Coordinating Board

Read first time 02/06/2003.                      Referred to Committee on Higher Education.

1            AN ACT Relating to the educational opportunity grant program; and  
2 amending RCW 28B.101.005, 28B.101.010, 28B.101.020, and 28B.101.040.

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

4            **Sec. 1.** RCW 28B.101.005 and 1990 c 288 s 2 are each amended to  
5 read as follows:

6            The legislature finds that many individuals in the state of  
7 Washington have attended college and received an associate of arts or  
8 associate of science degree, or ((its)) the equivalent, but are  
9 placebound.

10            The legislature intends to establish an educational opportunity  
11 grant program for placebound students who have completed an associate  
12 of arts or associate of science degree, or ((its)) the equivalent, in  
13 an effort to increase their participation in and completion of upper-  
14 division programs.

15            **Sec. 2.** RCW 28B.101.010 and 1990 c 288 s 3 are each amended to  
16 read as follows:

17            The educational opportunity grant program is hereby created ((as a  
18 demonstration project)) to serve placebound financially needy students

1 by assisting them to obtain a baccalaureate degree at public and  
2 private institutions of higher education (~~which have the capacity to~~  
3 ~~accommodate such students within existing educational programs and~~  
4 ~~facilities~~) approved for participation by the higher education  
5 coordinating board.

6 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28B.101.020 and 1990 c 288 s 4 are each amended to  
7 read as follows:

8 (1) For the purposes of this chapter, "placebound" means unable to  
9 (~~relocate to~~) complete a college program because of family or  
10 employment commitments, health concerns, monetary inability, or other  
11 similar factors.

12 (2) To be eligible for an educational opportunity grant, applicants  
13 must be placebound residents of the state of Washington as defined in  
14 RCW 28B.15.012(2) (a) through (d), who: (a) Are needy students as  
15 defined in RCW 28B.10.802(3); and ((who)) (b) have completed the  
16 associate of arts or associate of science degree or ((its)) the  
17 equivalent. A placebound resident is one who may be influenced by the  
18 receipt of an enhanced student financial aid award to ((attend an  
19 institution that has existing unused capacity rather than attend a  
20 branch campus established pursuant to chapter 28B.45 RCW)) complete a  
21 baccalaureate degree at an eligible institution. An eligible  
22 placebound applicant is further defined as a person (~~whose residence~~  
23 ~~is located in an area served by a branch campus who, because of family~~  
24 ~~or employment commitments, health concerns, monetary need, or other~~  
25 ~~similar factors,~~) who would be unable to complete (~~an upper-~~  
26 ~~division)) a baccalaureate course of study but for receipt of an  
27 educational opportunity grant.~~

28 **Sec. 4.** RCW 28B.101.040 and 2002 c 186 s 3 are each amended to  
29 read as follows:

30 Grants may be used by eligible participants to attend any public or  
31 private college or university in the state of Washington that is  
32 accredited by an accrediting association recognized by rule of the  
33 higher education coordinating board for the program and that (~~has an~~  
34 ~~existing unused capacity. Grants shall not be used to attend any~~  
35 ~~branch campus or educational program established under chapter 28B.45~~  
36 ~~RCW)) complies with eligibility criteria established by rule of the~~

1 higher education coordinating board. The participant shall not be  
2 eligible for a grant if it will be used for any programs that include  
3 religious worship, exercise, or instruction or to pursue a degree in  
4 theology. (~~Each participating student may receive up to two thousand~~  
5 ~~five hundred dollars per academic year, not to exceed~~) Grant amounts  
6 shall be established by the higher education coordinating board taking  
7 into account such factors as cost of attendance, the student's  
8 demonstrated financial need for the course of study(~~Resident~~  
9 ~~students as defined in RCW 28B.15.012(2)(f) are not eligible for grants~~  
10 ~~under this chapter~~), and the availability of other grant assistance.  
11 Grants shall be at least two thousand five hundred dollars per academic  
12 year.

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