
HOUSE BILL 2151

State of Washington 58th Legislature 2003 Regular Session

By Representatives Alexander, Dunshee, Sommers, Cox and Sehlin

Read first time 02/27/2003. Referred to Committee on Capital Budget.

1 AN ACT Relating to prioritizing proposed capital projects of higher
2 education institutions; adding a new section to chapter 28B.80 RCW; and
3 creating a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that a capital
6 investment in higher education facilities is needed over the next
7 several biennia to adequately preserve, modernize, and expand the
8 capacity of the state's public two-year and four-year colleges and
9 universities. This investment is needed to responsibly preserve and
10 restore existing facilities and to provide additional space for new
11 students. Further, the legislature finds that capital appropriations
12 will need to respond to each of these areas of need in a planned,
13 balanced, and prioritized manner so that access to a quality system of
14 higher education is ensured.

15 (2) It is the intent of the legislature that a methodology be
16 developed that will guide capital appropriation decisions by rating and
17 individually ranking, in sequential, priority order, all major capital
18 projects proposed by the two-year and four-year public universities and
19 colleges. Further, it is the intent of the legislature that this

1 rating, ranking, and prioritization of capital needs will reflect the
2 state's higher education policies and goals including the comprehensive
3 master plan for higher education as submitted by the higher education
4 coordinating board and as adopted by the legislature.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.80 RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 (1) In preparing its 2005-2007 and subsequent biennial capital
8 budget recommendations, the board shall: (a) Review and consider the
9 prioritized community and technical colleges prioritized project list
10 prepared by the state board for community and technical colleges; and
11 (b) prepare, in consultation with the four-year institutions, a single
12 prioritized individual ranking of individual major projects proposed by
13 the four-year institutions.

14 (2) The board shall, in consultation with the state board for
15 community and technical colleges and the public four-year institutions,
16 submit its biennial capital budget recommendations on the basis of a
17 prioritized project ranking reflecting the integration of the two-year
18 and four-year prioritized project lists.

19 (3) For repairs and improvements to existing facilities and
20 systems, the rating and ranking of individual major projects must be
21 based on criteria or factors that include, but are not limited to, the
22 age and condition of buildings or systems, the programmatic suitability
23 of the building or system, and the activity/occupancy level supported
24 by the building or system. For projects creating new space or
25 capacity, the ratings and rankings of major projects must be based upon
26 an analysis of existing capacity, space utilization levels, and
27 projected enrollment and staffing. The board may aggregate minor works
28 project requests into priority categories without separately ranking
29 each minor project, provided that these aggregated minor works requests
30 are ranked within the overall list.

31 (4) In developing this rating and ranking of capital projects
32 proposed by the two-year and four-year public universities and
33 colleges, the board:

34 (a) Shall be provided with available information by the public two-
35 year and four-year colleges and universities as deemed necessary by the
36 board;

1 (b) May utilize independent services to verify, sample, or evaluate
2 information provided to the board by the two-year and four-year public
3 universities and colleges; and

4 (c) Shall have full access to all data maintained by the office of
5 financial management and the joint legislative audit and review
6 committee concerning the condition of higher education facilities.

--- END ---