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HOUSE BILL 2708

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State of Washington                      58th Legislature                      2004 Regular Session

By Representatives Ormsby, Kenney, Cox, Fromhold, Moeller, Dickerson, Chase, Lantz, Morrell, Wood, Hudgins and Kagi

Read first time 01/20/2004. Referred to Committee on Higher Education.

1            AN ACT Relating to conditional scholarships for prospective  
2 teachers; and adding a new section to chapter 28B.80 RCW.

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

4            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.80 RCW  
5 to read as follows:

6            (1) The higher education coordinating board shall offer conditional  
7 scholarships for full or part-time studies that may be forgiven in  
8 exchange for teaching service in Washington's public K-12 schools.

9            (2) Applicants must have a declared intention to complete an  
10 approved preparation program leading to teacher certification with an  
11 endorsement in math, science, technology, special education, or  
12 bilingual education or be a teacher who is seeking an additional  
13 endorsement in math, science, technology, special education, or  
14 bilingual education. Applicants must also be resident students as  
15 defined by RCW 28B.15.012 and 28B.15.013, except that resident students  
16 defined in RCW 28B.15.012(2)(g) are not eligible for scholarships under  
17 this section.

18            (3) Students are eligible to receive a conditional scholarship not  
19 to exceed the amount of tuition and fees at the institution of higher

1 education attended by the student or resident undergraduate tuition and  
2 fees at the University of Washington, whichever is lower. Students are  
3 eligible to receive conditional scholarships for a maximum of five  
4 years.

5 (4) When selecting scholarship recipients, the higher education  
6 coordinating board shall give consideration to students who are  
7 bilingual and who are able to demonstrate their dual language  
8 proficiency by meeting a standard established by the board. The board  
9 shall establish the standard in consultation with the office of the  
10 superintendent of public instruction's bilingual education advisory  
11 committee. The board may also consider the applicant's demonstrated  
12 academic ability and commitment to serve as a teacher within the state  
13 of Washington.

14 (5) Loans shall be forgiven at the rate of one year of loan for two  
15 years of teaching service. Recipients who teach in geographic or  
16 subject-matter shortage areas, as specified by the office of the  
17 superintendent of public instruction, may have their loans forgiven at  
18 the rate of one year of loan for one year of teaching service.

19 (6) Recipients who fail to fulfill the required teaching service  
20 shall be required to repay the conditional loan with interest. The  
21 higher education coordinating board shall define the terms for  
22 repayment, including applicable interest rates, fees, and deferments,  
23 and may adopt other rules as necessary to implement this program.

24 (7) Appropriations, private donations, or any other funds given to  
25 the higher education coordinating board for this program, and all  
26 collections shall be deposited into the student loan account authorized  
27 in RCW 28B.102.060.

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