
SENATE BILL 5135

State of Washington 58th Legislature 2003 Regular Session

By Senators Carlson, West, Horn, Schmidt and Rossi

Read first time 01/15/2003. Referred to Committee on Higher Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to increased tuition fees for excess credits taken
2 at institutions of higher education; and adding new sections to chapter
3 28B.15 RCW.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.15 RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 (1) For resident undergraduate students who have accumulated more
8 than one hundred twenty percent of the number of credits required to
9 complete their respective baccalaureate or associate degree or
10 certificate programs at a state community or technical college, a state
11 university, regional university, or The Evergreen State College,
12 tuition fees shall equal a sum not less than the average instructional
13 support in state general funds and operating fees per full-time
14 equivalent, at each respective institution for the prior academic year,
15 as disclosed by the higher education coordinating board under RCW
16 28B.10.044.

17 (2) For nonresident undergraduate students who have accumulated
18 more than one hundred twenty percent of the number of credits required
19 to complete their respective baccalaureate or associate degree or

1 certificate programs at a state community or technical college, a state
2 university, regional university, or The Evergreen State College,
3 tuition fees shall equal a sum not less than twice the average
4 instructional support in state general funds and operating fees per
5 full-time equivalent, at each respective institution for the prior
6 academic year, as disclosed by the higher education coordinating board
7 under RCW 28B.10.044.

8 (3) The following exceptions apply to subsections (1) and (2) of
9 this section:

10 (a) Credits earned at private institutions of higher education in
11 the state of Washington, at public or private institutions of higher
12 education in other states, or through advanced placement programs shall
13 not be applied to the total accumulated for the purposes of this
14 section;

15 (b) For community college transfer students, credits earned at a
16 community college that are in excess of the credits necessary to
17 complete an associate degree shall not be applied to the total
18 accumulated for the purposes of this section;

19 (c) This section shall not apply to any dislocated worker as
20 defined by RCW 50.04.075 or to any person engaging in a job training
21 program under the purview of the work force training and education
22 coordinating board;

23 (d) This section shall not apply to students who are enrolled in
24 institutionally established double-degree programs;

25 (e) This section shall not apply to students participating in the
26 border county higher education opportunity project under RCW
27 28B.80.806;

28 (f) This section shall not apply to certificated teachers of the K-
29 12 school system who are pursuing continuing education credits
30 according to certification requirements;

31 (g) Any credits earned before the 1999-2000 academic year shall not
32 be applied to the total accumulated for the purposes of this section.

33 (4) Students who believe they are under extraordinary or unforeseen
34 academic or personal circumstances or were unable to complete their
35 baccalaureate degree program within the number of credits specified due
36 to institutional constraints may petition the institution for a special
37 waiver from the tuition provision of subsections (1) and (2) of this

1 section. The governing board of each institution shall create a
2 process through which student petitions may be fairly processed, heard,
3 and determined.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.15 RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 The general fund--state appropriation may not be reduced by the
7 amount of operating fees revenue collected as a result of section 1 of
8 this act.

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