
SENATE BILL 5139

State of Washington

58th Legislature

2003 Regular Session

By Senator Carlson

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

1 AN ACT Relating to remedial postsecondary education; amending RCW
2 28B.10.685; reenacting and amending RCW 28A.225.220; adding new
3 sections to chapter 28B.10 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 28B.15
4 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that some students who
7 have recently graduated from high school must immediately enroll in one
8 or more remedial or precollege classes at Washington's public colleges
9 and universities before they proceed with college-level courses. The
10 legislature also finds that these students should have received basic
11 skills in English; reading; writing, including spelling and grammar;
12 study skills; and mathematics before graduating from high school. It
13 is the intent of the legislature to give meaning to the high school
14 diploma. Therefore, it is the intent of the legislature that the
15 school districts from which these students received their high school
16 diplomas either provide remedial education for recent high school
17 graduates or pay the cost of providing state-supported remedial classes
18 for recent high school graduates.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The definitions in this section apply
2 throughout sections 3 and 4 of this act unless the context clearly
3 requires otherwise.

4 (1) "Recent high school graduate" means an individual who, within
5 three years after high school graduation, enrolls at an institution of
6 higher education as defined in RCW 28B.10.016.

7 (2) "State-supported" means that the developmental, remedial, or
8 precollege class or laboratory is supported in whole or in part by
9 money from the state general fund.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) By June 30th of each even-numbered year,
11 the state board for community and technical colleges shall establish
12 and report to the superintendent of public instruction the average per-
13 student cost of instruction for state-supported developmental,
14 remedial, and precollege classes and laboratories offered in the
15 community and technical colleges. The classes shall include, but need
16 not be limited to precollege classes in study skills, mathematics
17 including intermediate algebra, English grammar, reading, spelling, and
18 writing. English as a second language classes shall not be included.

19 (2) By June 30th of each even-numbered year, each of the state
20 universities, regional universities, and the state college shall report
21 to the office of the superintendent of public instruction the average
22 per-student cost of instruction for state-supported remedial and
23 precollege classes offered by that institution in study skills,
24 mathematics including intermediate algebra, English grammar, writing,
25 spelling, and reading. English as a second language classes shall not
26 be included.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) Once an institution of higher education
28 has determined that a recent high school graduate needs to improve his
29 or her competency in material that is determined by the institution of
30 higher education to be precollege material, the institution shall
31 notify the Washington school district that awarded the high school
32 diploma to the recent high school graduate.

33 (2) The school district may either provide the needed precollege
34 instruction in a timely manner, or the district may pay the institution
35 of higher education to provide the needed precollege instruction.

1 (a) If the school district provides the instruction, it shall not
2 charge tuition to the student. The school district shall not use any
3 state funds to provide the necessary precollege instruction to the
4 student.

5 (b) If the school district chooses to pay the institution of higher
6 education to provide the necessary precollege instruction, then the
7 school district shall pay to the institution of higher education an
8 amount equal to the relevant average per-student cost of instruction
9 reported under section 3 of this act. The school district shall not
10 use any state funds to pay the institution of higher education to
11 provide the necessary precollege instruction to the student. The
12 school district shall not access any financial aid on behalf of the
13 student. The institution of higher education shall not charge tuition
14 to the student.

15 **Sec. 5.** RCW 28B.10.685 and 1995 c 310 s 3 are each amended to read
16 as follows:

17 ((~~Beginning in 1997,~~)) By September 30th of each year, each state
18 university, regional university, state college, and, for community
19 colleges and technical colleges, the state board for community and
20 technical colleges shall provide a report to the office of the
21 superintendent of public instruction, the state board of education, and
22 the ((~~commission on student learning under RCW 28A.630.885~~)) higher
23 education coordinating board. The report shall contain the following
24 information on students who, within three years of graduating from a
25 Washington high school, enrolled the prior year in a state-supported
26 precollege level class at the institution: (1) The number of such
27 students enrolled in a precollege level class in mathematics, reading,
28 grammar, spelling, writing, or English; (2) the types of precollege
29 classes in which each student was enrolled; and (3) the name of the
30 Washington high school from which each student graduated.

31 For students who enrolled in a precollege class within three years
32 of graduating from a Washington high school, each institution of higher
33 education shall also report to the Washington high school from which
34 the student graduated. The annual report shall include information on
35 the number of students from that high school enrolled in precollege
36 classes, and the types of classes taken by the students.

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

3 Subject to the limitations of RCW 28B.15.910, the governing boards
4 of each of the colleges and universities shall waive tuition fees for
5 precollege classes taken by any student who is a recent high school
6 graduate from a high school and the student's high school district is
7 paying the average per-student cost of instruction for the student to
8 take precollege classes in the state of Washington.

9 **Sec. 7.** RCW 28A.225.220 and 1995 c 335 s 602 and 1995 c 52 s 2 are
10 each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

11 (1) Any board of directors may make agreements with adults choosing
12 to attend school, and with the exception of students attending under
13 section 4 of this act, may charge the adults reasonable tuition.

14 (2) A district is strongly encouraged to honor the request of a
15 parent or guardian for his or her child to attend a school in another
16 district or the request of a parent or guardian for his or her child to
17 transfer as a student receiving home-based instruction.

18 (3) A district shall release a student to a nonresident district
19 that agrees to accept the student if:

20 (a) A financial, educational, safety, or health condition affecting
21 the student would likely be reasonably improved as a result of the
22 transfer; or

23 (b) Attendance at the school in the nonresident district is more
24 accessible to the parent's place of work or to the location of child
25 care; or

26 (c) There is a special hardship or detrimental condition.

27 (4) A district may deny the request of a resident student to
28 transfer to a nonresident district if the release of the student would
29 adversely affect the district's existing desegregation plan.

30 (5) For the purpose of helping a district assess the quality of its
31 education program, a resident school district may request an optional
32 exit interview or questionnaire with the parents or guardians of a
33 child transferring to another district. No parent or guardian may be
34 forced to attend such an interview or complete the questionnaire.

35 (6) Beginning with the 1993-94 school year, school districts may
36 not charge transfer fees or tuition for nonresident students enrolled
37 under subsection (3) of this section and RCW 28A.225.225.

1 Reimbursement of a high school district for cost of educating high
2 school pupils of a nonhigh school district shall not be deemed a
3 transfer fee as affecting the apportionment of current state school
4 funds.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** Sections 2 through 4 of this act are each
6 added to chapter 28B.10 RCW.

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