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HOUSE BILL 1976

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State of Washington                      59th Legislature                      2005 Regular Session

By Representatives Hunt, Dunn, Darneille, Clements, Appleton and Santos

Read first time 02/14/2005. Referred to Committee on Higher Education.

1            AN ACT Relating to authorizing tuition waivers for retired state  
2 employees; and amending RCW 28B.15.558.

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

4            **Sec. 1.** RCW 28B.15.558 and 2003 c 160 s 2 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6            (1) The governing boards of the state universities, the regional  
7 universities, The Evergreen State College, and the community colleges  
8 may waive all or a portion of the tuition and services and activities  
9 fees for state employees as defined under subsection (2) of this  
10 section, retired state employees, veterans of the Korean conflict, and  
11 members of the Washington national guard. The enrollment of these  
12 persons is pursuant to the following conditions:

13            (a) Such persons shall register for and be enrolled in courses on  
14 a space available basis and no new course sections shall be created as  
15 a result of the registration;

16            (b) Enrollment information on persons registered pursuant to this  
17 section shall be maintained separately from other enrollment  
18 information and shall not be included in official enrollment reports,

1 nor shall such persons be considered in any enrollment statistics that  
2 would affect budgetary determinations; and

3 (c) Persons registering on a space available basis shall be charged  
4 a registration fee of not less than five dollars.

5 (2) For the purposes of this section, "state employees" means  
6 persons employed half-time or more in one or more of the following  
7 employee classifications:

8 (a) Permanent employees in classified service under chapter 41.06  
9 RCW;

10 (b) Permanent employees governed by chapter 41.56 RCW pursuant to  
11 the exercise of the option under RCW 41.56.201;

12 (c) Permanent classified employees and exempt paraprofessional  
13 employees of technical colleges; and

14 (d) Faculty, counselors, librarians, and exempt professional and  
15 administrative employees at institutions of higher education as defined  
16 in RCW 28B.10.016.

17 (3) For the purposes of this section, "veterans of the Korean  
18 conflict" means persons who served on active duty in the armed forces  
19 of the United States during any portion of the period beginning June  
20 27, 1950, and ending January 31, 1955.

21 (4) For the purposes of this section, "retired state employee"  
22 means a retiree as defined under RCW 41.40.010 whose employer or  
23 employers during active service included a branch, department, agency,  
24 commission, board, or office of the state.

25 (5) In awarding waivers, an institution of higher education may  
26 award waivers to eligible persons employed by the institution before  
27 considering waivers for eligible persons who are not employed by the  
28 institution.

29 ~~((+5))~~ (6) If an institution of higher education exercises the  
30 authority granted under this section, it shall include all eligible  
31 state employees, retired state employees, veterans of the Korean  
32 conflict, and members of the Washington national guard in the pool of  
33 persons eligible to participate in the program.

34 ~~((+6))~~ (7) In establishing eligibility to receive waivers,  
35 institutions of higher education may not discriminate between full-time  
36 employees and employees who are employed half-time or more.

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