
HOUSE BILL 3113

State of Washington 59th Legislature 2006 Regular Session

By Representatives Sells, Kenney, Strow, McCoy, Haler, Dunshee, B. Sullivan, Lovick, Roberts and Hasegawa

Read first time 01/20/2006. Referred to Committee on Higher Education & Workforce Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to expanding access to higher education in north
2 Snohomish, Island, and Skagit counties using the university center
3 model; creating a new section; making an appropriation; and providing
4 an effective date.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) RCW 28B.50.901 assigns responsibility
7 for the north Snohomish, Island, and Skagit counties higher education
8 consortium to Everett Community College. Everett Community College
9 submitted a report titled "Higher Education Opportunity in the NSIS
10 Region" on December 1, 2005, to the appropriate committees of the
11 legislature. The legislature accepts this report as representative of
12 the needs for higher education in the North Snohomish, Island, and
13 Skagit counties (NSIS) region. It is the intent of the legislature to
14 support enrollment growth in the NSIS county regions of the state as
15 represented in the report.

16 (2) The legislature finds that recent research by the state board
17 for community and technical colleges indicates that the immediate needs
18 of at least five hundred students are not being met in the NSIS region
19 at the upper-division level.

1 (3) The legislature further finds that long-term unmet need in the
2 Snohomish, Island, and Skagit county region is projected to reach four
3 thousand one hundred forty-one upper-division full-time equivalents by
4 the year 2025.

5 (4) Therefore, the legislature intends to provide funding for a
6 minimum of two hundred fifty full-time equivalents at the upper-
7 division and graduate levels for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2007.
8 This funding shall be used to meet the higher education needs of the
9 NSIS region.

10 (5) This funding shall be provided to support at least two hundred
11 fifty full-time equivalents at the upper-division and graduate levels
12 including but not limited to the following fields of study:
13 Engineering, technology, nursing and health professions, environmental
14 sciences, education, interdisciplinary studies, and other areas of
15 study based on student and employer demand. These fields of study
16 shall be offered using the university center model, centered on a
17 community college campus with a single point of accountability, and
18 hosted by the community colleges in Snohomish and Skagit counties.
19 Enrollment in these fields shall begin no later than the fall term of
20 2006.

21 (6) Everett Community College, with the assistance of Edmonds
22 Community College, Skagit Valley College, and the universities
23 participating in offering the enrollment subject to this section shall
24 submit a report to the appropriate committees of the legislature by
25 July 1, 2007. The report shall describe the number of enrollments and
26 degrees produced as a result of the funding provided in this act, as
27 well as the effect of those enrollments and degrees on local
28 communities.

29 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The sum of one million five hundred seventy-
30 five thousand dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is
31 appropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2007, from the general
32 fund to the state board for community and technical colleges for the
33 purposes of this act.

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** Section 1 of this act takes effect July 1,

1 2006.

--- END ---