
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6846

State of Washington

59th Legislature

2006 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Early Learning, K-12 & Higher Education
(originally sponsored by Senators McAuliffe, Pridemore, Weinstein,
Thibaudeau, Kohl-Welles, Berkey and Rasmussen)

READ FIRST TIME 02/03/06.

1 AN ACT Relating to a college in the high school program that is
2 distinct from the running start program; amending RCW 28A.150.275,
3 28A.225.290, 28A.600.160, and 28A.600.300; adding new sections to
4 chapter 28A.600 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:

7 (1) The economy of the state of Washington requires a well-prepared
8 work force. To meet the need, more Washington students must be
9 prepared for postsecondary education and training. Further, the
10 personal enrichment and success of Washington citizens increasingly
11 relies on their ability to use the state's postsecondary education and
12 training system. To accomplish those ends, the legislature desires to
13 increase the number of students who begin earning college credits while
14 still in high school.

15 (2) Not all Washington high school students realize that they are
16 capable of college-level work, nor do all students have ready and
17 affordable access to college-level courses. The legislature finds that
18 an effective means of increasing the number of students earning college
19 credit in high school is to bring the college courses to the students.

1 The legislature believes the ability to earn college credit during the
2 regular high school day and on the high school campus may greatly
3 expand students' willingness and ability to attempt college-credit-
4 bearing courses.

5 (3) Many high school students who wish to earn college credits are
6 unable to participate in the running start program because they live in
7 areas that do not have local colleges or participating universities;
8 some students who would like to earn college credits while in high
9 school do not participate in running start because they do not want to
10 leave their high school campus in order to do so; and some students who
11 would like to earn college credits are unable to afford the cost of
12 books, fees, transportation and other costs not covered by running
13 start.

14 (4) Some high schools are currently working with colleges and
15 universities to offer college credit courses on high school campuses to
16 serve those students. However, since there is no established statewide
17 program or funding provided, rules governing these programs vary and
18 high school students pay varying amounts to cover the colleges' and
19 universities' costs of working with high schools to offer the classes.

20 (5) It is the intent of the legislature to establish the college in
21 the high school program as a statewide option for high school students.
22 High schools, colleges, and universities that wish to work together to
23 offer this option are encouraged to do so.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.600
25 RCW to read as follows:

26 (1) The superintendent of public instruction, the state board for
27 community and technical colleges, and the public baccalaureate
28 institutions shall jointly develop and adopt rules governing the
29 college in the high school program. The rules shall be written to
30 encourage the maximum use of the program and shall not narrow or limit
31 the enrollment options.

32 (2) College in the high school programs shall each be governed by
33 a local contract in compliance with the guidelines adopted by the
34 superintendent of public instruction, the state board for community and
35 technical colleges, and the public baccalaureate institutions.

36 (3) The college in the high school program shall provide that:

1 (a) To the extent funds are appropriated for this purpose, the
2 superintendent of public instruction may distribute to school districts
3 an incentive allocation equivalent to seven percent of the basic
4 education allocation for each student enrolled in a five credit college
5 in the high school course. The amount of the actual incentive
6 allocation generated by each student enrolled in a five college credits
7 in the college in high school program shall be calculated as seven
8 percent of the statewide average basic education amount generated for
9 a 1.0 average annual full-time equivalent position, pursuant to RCW
10 28A.150.260, excluding small high school enhancements. School
11 districts shall report no student for more than 1.0 full-time
12 equivalent combining both their high school enrollment and college in
13 the high school courses.

14 (b) The institution of higher education shall not require the
15 student to pay any other fees. The funds received by the institution
16 of higher education from the school district shall not be deemed
17 tuition or operating fees and may be retained by the institution of
18 higher education. A student enrolled under this subsection shall not
19 be counted for the purpose of determining any enrollment restrictions
20 imposed by the state on the institution of higher education.

21 (c) A school district shall grant high school credit to a student
22 enrolled in a program course if the student successfully completes the
23 course. If no comparable course is offered by the school district, the
24 school district superintendent shall determine how many credits to
25 award for the course. The determination shall be made in writing
26 before the student enrolls in the course. The credits shall be applied
27 toward graduation requirements and subject area requirements. Evidence
28 of successful completion of each program course shall be included in
29 the student's secondary school records and transcript.

30 (d) Eleventh and twelfth grade students or students who have not
31 yet received a high school diploma or its equivalent and are eligible
32 to be in the eleventh or twelfth grades may participate in the college
33 in the high school program. Participating school districts and
34 institutions of higher education may establish standards for admission
35 to program courses.

36 (e) Participating school districts shall provide general
37 information about the college in the high school program to all

1 students in grades ten, eleven, and twelve and the parents and
2 guardians of those students.

3 (4) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this
4 section.

5 (a) "Institution of higher education" has the meaning in RCW
6 28B.10.016 and also includes a public tribal college located in
7 Washington and accredited by the Northwest commission on colleges and
8 universities or another accrediting association recognized by the
9 United States department of education.

10 (b) "Program course" means a college course offered in a high
11 school under the college in the high school program.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.600
13 RCW to read as follows:

14 The superintendent of public instruction shall develop advising
15 guidelines to ensure that students and parents understand that college
16 credits earned in high school dual credit programs may impact
17 eligibility for financial aid.

18 **Sec. 4.** RCW 28A.150.275 and 1995 c 77 s 4 are each amended to read
19 as follows:

20 The basic education allocation, including applicable vocational
21 entitlements and special education program money, generated under this
22 chapter and under state appropriation acts by school districts for
23 students enrolled in a technical college program established by an
24 interlocal agreement under RCW 28B.50.533 shall be allocated in amounts
25 as determined by the superintendent of public instruction to the
26 serving college rather than to the school district, unless the college
27 chooses to continue to receive the allocations through the school
28 districts. This section does not apply to students enrolled in the
29 running start program established in RCW 28A.600.310 or the college in
30 the high school program established in section 2 of this act.

31 **Sec. 5.** RCW 28A.225.290 and 1990 1st ex.s. c 9 s 207 are each
32 amended to read as follows:

33 (1) The superintendent of public instruction shall prepare and
34 annually distribute an information booklet outlining parents' and
35 guardians' enrollment options for their children.

1 (2) Before the 1991-92 school year, the booklet shall be
2 distributed to all school districts by the office of the superintendent
3 of public instruction. School districts shall have a copy of the
4 information booklet available for public inspection at each school in
5 the district, at the district office, and in public libraries.

6 (3) The booklet shall include:

7 (a) Information about enrollment options and program opportunities,
8 including but not limited to programs in RCW 28A.225.220, 28A.185.040,
9 28A.225.200 through 28A.225.215, 28A.225.230 through 28A.225.250,
10 (~~28A.175.090,~~) 28A.340.010 through 28A.340.070 (small high school
11 cooperative projects), and 28A.335.160.

12 (b) Information about the running start - community college or
13 vocational-technical institute choice program under RCW 28A.600.300
14 through (~~28A.600.395~~) 28A.600.400 and about the college in the high
15 school program under section 2 of this act; and

16 (c) Information about the seventh and eighth grade choice program
17 under RCW 28A.230.090.

18 (4) The booklet may be distributed in an electronic format.

19 **Sec. 6.** RCW 28A.600.160 and 1998 c 225 s 2 are each amended to
20 read as follows:

21 Any middle school, junior high school, or high school using
22 educational pathways shall ensure that all participating students will
23 continue to have access to the courses and instruction necessary to
24 meet admission requirements at baccalaureate institutions. Students
25 shall be allowed to enter the educational pathway of their choice.
26 Before accepting a student into an educational pathway, the school
27 shall inform the student's parent of the pathway chosen, the
28 opportunities available to the student through the pathway, and the
29 career objectives the student will have exposure to while pursuing the
30 pathway. Parents and students dissatisfied with the opportunities
31 available through the selected educational pathway shall be provided
32 with the opportunity to transfer the student to any other pathway
33 provided in the school. Schools may not develop educational pathways
34 that retain students in high school beyond the date they are eligible
35 to graduate, and may not require students who transfer between pathways
36 to complete pathway requirements beyond the date the student is
37 eligible to graduate. Educational pathways may include, but are not

1 limited to, programs such as work-based learning, school-to-work
2 transition, tech prep, vocational-technical education, running start,
3 college in the high school, and preparation for technical college,
4 community college, or university education.

5 **Sec. 7.** RCW 28A.600.300 and 2005 c 207 s 5 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (1) The program established in this section through RCW 28A.600.400
8 shall be known as the running start program.

9 (2) For the purposes of RCW 28A.600.310 through 28A.600.400,
10 "participating institution of higher education" or "institution of
11 higher education" means:

12 ~~((1))~~ (a) A community or technical college as defined in RCW
13 28B.50.030;

14 ~~((2))~~ (b) A public tribal college located in Washington and
15 accredited by the northwest commission on colleges and universities or
16 another accrediting association recognized by the United States
17 department of education; and

18 ~~((3))~~ (c) Central Washington University, Eastern Washington
19 University, Washington State University, and The Evergreen State
20 College, if the institution's governing board decides to participate in
21 the program in RCW 28A.600.310 through 28A.600.400.

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