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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6820**

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**State of Washington**

**60th Legislature**

**2008 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Economic Development, Trade & Management (originally sponsored by Senators Kastama, Rasmussen, Shin, Kline, Kohl-Welles, Murray, Franklin, Brown, Eide, Regala, Hobbs, Berkey, Swecker, McCaslin, McAuliffe, and McDermott)

READ FIRST TIME 02/08/08.

1       AN ACT Relating to creating the Washington investment in student  
2 excellence scholarship program; creating new sections; and making an  
3 appropriation.

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

5       NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 1.**   The legislature finds that providing access  
6 to higher education in the state is a priority, and that it is in the  
7 state's best interest to create and support both need and merit-based  
8 scholarships.       The legislature also finds that state-funded  
9 scholarships require stable funding in order to be effective, and that  
10 creative and alternative sources of funding must be explored.   The  
11 legislature further finds that providing access to higher education in  
12 the state is an economic development issue, and as such would benefit  
13 from an economic development perspective.   The legislature intends that  
14 the economic development commission study stable funding sources for  
15 state need and merit-based scholarships.

16       NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 2.**   The economic development commission is  
17 directed, in consultation with the higher education coordinating board

1 and the workforce training and education coordinating board, to study  
2 and identify stable funding sources for opportunity grants,  
3 apprenticeship programs, and scholarships based on both need and merit.

4 (1) The study must address:

5 (a) The feasibility of creating a new lottery game, the proceeds of  
6 which go exclusively to opportunity grants, apprenticeship programs,  
7 and scholarships based on both need and merit;

8 (b) The feasibility of implementing any mechanisms used by other  
9 states to generate income through the administration of unemployment  
10 insurance systems, including federal cost-sharing requirements, to be  
11 used as a potential funding source for opportunity grants,  
12 apprenticeship programs, and scholarships based on both need and merit;

13 (c) The feasibility of acquiring private contributions to enhance  
14 or match public funding sources to be used in funding the opportunity  
15 grants, apprenticeship programs, and scholarships based on both need  
16 and merit;

17 (d) The potential for locating additional funding sources to  
18 supplement or replace any current expenditures supplanted by funding  
19 the opportunity grants, apprenticeship programs, and scholarships based  
20 on both need and merit;

21 (e) The total system-wide expenditures associated with opportunity  
22 grants, apprenticeship programs, and scholarships based on both need  
23 and merit, and identify mechanisms to simplify the structure, maximize  
24 efficiency, and eliminate overlap; and

25 (f) Any ideas reasonably calculated to provide sufficient funding  
26 for opportunity grants, apprenticeship programs, and scholarships based  
27 on both need and merit.

28 (2) The economic development commission must produce a report by  
29 December 1, 2008, for review by the appropriate standing committees of  
30 the legislature.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The sum of thirty thousand dollars, or as  
32 much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the fiscal year  
33 ending June 30, 2008, from the general fund to the economic development  
34 commission for the purposes of this act.

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