

HB 2694 - S COMM AMD
By Committee on Ways & Means

ADOPTED 04/12/2010

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.50
4 RCW to read as follows:

5 (1) RCW 28B.50.901 assigns responsibility for the north Snohomish,
6 Island, and Skagit counties' higher education consortium to Everett
7 Community College. In April of 2009, Everett Community College opened
8 Gray Wolf Hall, the new home of the University Center of North Puget
9 Sound. The University Center currently offers over twenty bachelor's
10 and master's degrees from six partner universities.

11 (2) Although Everett Community College offers an associate degree
12 nursing program that graduates approximately seventy to ninety students
13 per year, the University Center does not offer a bachelor of science in
14 nursing. Some graduates of the Everett Community College program are
15 able to articulate to the bachelor of science in nursing program
16 offered by the University of Washington-Bothell at its Bothell campus
17 or in Mt. Vernon but current capacity is not sufficient for all of the
18 graduates who are both interested and qualified.

19 (3) Despite recent growth in nursing education capacity, shortages
20 still persist for registered nurses. According to a June 2007 study by
21 the Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana, and Idaho center for health
22 workforce studies, the average age of Washington's registered nurses
23 was forty-eight years. More than a third were fifty-five years of age
24 or older. Consequently, the high rate of registered nurses retiring
25 from nursing practice over the next two decades will significantly
26 reduce the supply. This reduction comes at the same time as the
27 state's population grows and ages. The registered nurse education
28 capacity in Washington has a large impact on the supply of registered
29 nurses in the state. If the rate of graduation in registered nursing
30 does not increase, projections show that supply in Washington will

1 begin to decline by 2015. In contrast, if graduation rates increased
2 by four hundred per year, the supply of registered nurses would meet
3 estimated demand by the year 2021.

4 (4) Subject to specific funding to support up to fifty full-time
5 equivalent students in a bachelor of nursing program, the University
6 Center at Everett Community College, in partnership with the University
7 of Washington-Bothell, shall offer a bachelor of science in nursing
8 program with capacity for up to fifty full-time students.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** This act is necessary for the immediate
10 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
11 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
12 July 1, 2010.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** If specific funding for the purposes of this
14 act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not provided by
15 June 30, 2010, in the omnibus appropriations act, this act is null and
16 void."

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17 On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "Center;" strike the
18 remainder of the title and insert "adding a new section to chapter
19 28B.50 RCW; creating a new section; providing an effective date; and
20 declaring an emergency."

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