

HB 2306 - DIGEST

Declares an intent to: (1) Design a college affordability program that systemically addresses certain issues for middle-income families to afford a college education; and

(2) Empower the four-year institutions of higher education to raise tuition during a six-year period and target a portion of the new revenue to those middle-income students who would not otherwise qualify for state financial aid.

Establishes the opportunity grant program at the University of Washington, Washington State University, Central Washington University, and The Evergreen State College, which is supplemental to the state need grant program and is intended to provide financial assistance to middle-income students with incomes up to one hundred twenty-five percent of state median family income adjusted for family size.

Requires the Washington state institute for public policy to: (1) Evaluate the effects of the change in tuition policy and financial aid created by the act;

(2) Recommend alternatives for the guaranteed education tuition program; and

(3) Deliver its findings to the governor and appropriate committees of the legislature by December 2012.