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SENATE BILL 5548

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State of Washington

63rd Legislature

2013 Regular Session

By Senators Ranker, Nelson, Billig, Hasegawa, Keiser, Schlicher, Kline, Kohl-Welles, Shin, and Rolfes

Read first time 02/04/13. Referred to Committee on Higher Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to limiting differential tuition; and reenacting  
2 and amending RCW 28B.15.067.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28B.15.067 and 2012 2nd sp.s. c 7 s 914 and 2012 c 228  
5 s 6 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

6 (1) Tuition fees shall be established under the provisions of this  
7 chapter.

8 (2) Beginning in the 2011-12 academic year, reductions or increases  
9 in full-time tuition fees shall be as provided in the omnibus  
10 appropriations act for resident undergraduate students at community and  
11 technical colleges. The governing boards of the state universities,  
12 regional universities, and The Evergreen State College; and the state  
13 board for community and technical colleges may reduce or increase full-  
14 time tuition fees for all students other than resident undergraduates,  
15 including nonresident students, summer school students, and students in  
16 other self-supporting degree programs. Percentage increases in full-  
17 time tuition may exceed the fiscal growth factor. (~~Except during the~~  
18 ~~2011-2013 fiscal biennium, the state board for community and technical~~

1 ~~colleges may pilot or institute differential tuition models. The board~~  
2 ~~may define scale, scope, and rationale for the models.))~~

3 (3)(a) Beginning with the 2011-12 academic year and through the end  
4 of the 2014-15 academic year, the governing boards of the state  
5 universities, the regional universities, and The Evergreen State  
6 College may reduce or increase full-time tuition fees for all students,  
7 including summer school students and students in other self-supporting  
8 degree programs. Percentage increases in full-time tuition fees may  
9 exceed the fiscal growth factor. Reductions or increases may be made  
10 for all or portions of an institution's programs, campuses, or  
11 courses~~((, or))~~ for graduate or nonresident students; however, ~~((during~~  
12 ~~the 2011-2013 fiscal biennium,))~~ reductions or increases in tuition  
13 must be uniform among resident undergraduate students.

14 (b) Prior to reducing or increasing tuition for each academic year,  
15 the governing boards of the state universities, the regional  
16 universities, and The Evergreen State College shall consult with  
17 existing student associations or organizations with student  
18 undergraduate and graduate representatives regarding the impacts of  
19 potential tuition increases. Each governing board shall make public  
20 its proposal for tuition and fee increases twenty-one days before the  
21 governing board of the institution considers adoption and allow  
22 opportunity for public comment. However, the requirement to make  
23 public a proposal for tuition and fee increases twenty-one days before  
24 the governing board considers adoption shall not apply if the omnibus  
25 appropriations act has not passed the legislature by May 15th.  
26 Governing boards shall be required to provide data regarding the  
27 percentage of students receiving financial aid, the sources of aid, and  
28 the percentage of total costs of attendance paid for by aid.

29 (c) Prior to reducing or increasing tuition for each academic year,  
30 the state board for community and technical college system shall  
31 consult with existing student associations or organizations with  
32 undergraduate student representation regarding the impacts of potential  
33 tuition increases. The state board for community and technical  
34 colleges shall provide data regarding the percentage of students  
35 receiving financial aid, the sources of aid, and the percentage of  
36 total costs of attendance paid for by aid.

37 (4) Beginning with the 2015-16 academic year through the 2018-19

1 academic year, the governing boards of the state universities, regional  
2 universities, and The Evergreen State College may set tuition for  
3 resident undergraduates as follows:

4 (a) If state funding for a college or university falls below the  
5 state funding provided in the operating budget for fiscal year 2011,  
6 the governing board may increase tuition up to the limits set in (d) of  
7 this subsection, reduce enrollments, or both;

8 (b) If state funding for a college or university is at least at the  
9 level of state funding provided in the operating budget for fiscal year  
10 2011, the governing board may increase tuition up to the limits set in  
11 (d) of this subsection and shall continue to at least maintain the  
12 actual enrollment levels for fiscal year 2011 or increase enrollments  
13 as required in the omnibus appropriations act;

14 (c) If state funding is increased so that combined with resident  
15 undergraduate tuition the sixtieth percentile of the total per-student  
16 funding at similar public institutions of higher education in the  
17 global challenge states under RCW 28B.15.068 is exceeded, the governing  
18 board shall decrease tuition by the amount needed for the total per-  
19 student funding to be at the sixtieth percentile under RCW 28B.15.068;  
20 and

21 (d) The amount of tuition set by the governing board for an  
22 institution under this subsection (4) may not exceed the sixtieth  
23 percentile of the resident undergraduate tuition of similar public  
24 institutions of higher education in the global challenge states.

25 (5) Reductions or increases in tuition set by the governing board  
26 for an institution under subsection (4) of this section may be made for  
27 all or portions of an institution's programs, campuses, or courses for  
28 graduate or nonresident students; however, reductions or increases in  
29 tuition must be uniform among resident undergraduate students.

30 (6) The tuition fees established under this chapter shall not apply  
31 to high school students enrolling in participating institutions of  
32 higher education under RCW 28A.600.300 through 28A.600.400.

33 ~~((+6))~~ (7) The tuition fees established under this chapter shall  
34 not apply to eligible students enrolling in a dropout reengagement  
35 program through an interlocal agreement between a school district and  
36 a community or technical college under RCW 28A.175.100 through  
37 28A.175.110.

1        ~~((7))~~ (8) The tuition fees established under this chapter shall  
2 not apply to eligible students enrolling in a community or technical  
3 college participating in the pilot program under RCW 28B.50.534 for the  
4 purpose of obtaining a high school diploma.

5        ~~((8))~~ (9) Beginning in the 2019-20 academic year, reductions or  
6 increases in full-time tuition fees for resident undergraduates at  
7 four-year institutions of higher education shall be as provided in the  
8 omnibus appropriations act.

9        ~~((9))~~ (10) The legislative advisory committee to the committee on  
10 advanced tuition payment established in RCW 28B.95.170 shall:

11        (a) Review the impact of differential tuition rates on the funded  
12 status and future unit price of the Washington advanced college tuition  
13 payment program; and

14        (b) No later than January 14, 2013, make a recommendation to the  
15 appropriate policy and fiscal committees of the legislature regarding  
16 how differential tuition should be addressed in order to maintain the  
17 ongoing solvency of the Washington advanced college tuition payment  
18 program.

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