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**HOUSE BILL 1485**

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**State of Washington**

**69th Legislature**

**2025 Regular Session**

**By** Representatives Salahuddin, Pollet, Reed, Parshley, Nance, and Scott

Read first time 01/21/25. Referred to Committee on Postsecondary Education & Workforce.

1 AN ACT Relating to increasing the annual limit of services and  
2 activities fees at institutions of higher education; amending RCW  
3 28B.15.069; and creating a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that institutions of  
6 higher education, specifically in more urban areas of our state,  
7 often face rising costs for maintaining and expanding essential  
8 services and activities, such as student health services, counseling,  
9 recreation facilities, student clubs, cultural events, and academic  
10 support programs. An increase in the annual limit of services and  
11 activities fees would help offset inflationary pressures and ensure  
12 these services can continue to operate effectively. Therefore, the  
13 legislature intends to provide the opportunity for students to raise  
14 the services and activities fees while keeping the fee process for  
15 approval the same.

16 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28B.15.069 and 2018 c 202 s 1 are each amended to  
17 read as follows:

18 (1) The building fee for each academic year shall be a percentage  
19 of total tuition fees. This percentage shall be calculated by the  
20 office of financial management and be based on the actual percentage

1 the building fee is of total tuition for each tuition category in the  
2 1994-95 academic year, rounded up to the nearest half percent. After  
3 October 9, 2015, the dollar value of the building fee shall not be  
4 reduced below the level in the 2014-15 academic year adjusted for  
5 inflation. As used in this subsection, "inflation" has the meaning in  
6 RCW 28B.15.066(2).

7 (2) The governing boards of each institution of higher education  
8 shall charge to and collect from each student a services and  
9 activities fee. A governing board may increase the existing fee  
10 annually, consistent with budgeting procedures set forth in RCW  
11 28B.15.045, by amounts that shall not exceed (~~four~~) six percent per  
12 year, judged reasonable and necessary by the services and activities  
13 fee committee and the governing board. The governing boards of the  
14 community and technical colleges may increase the existing student  
15 and activities fee annually, consistent with budgeting procedures set  
16 forth in RCW 28B.15.045, by a percentage not to exceed the annual  
17 percentage increase in student tuition fees for resident  
18 undergraduate students: PROVIDED, That such percentage increase shall  
19 not apply to that portion of the services and activities fee  
20 previously committed to the repayment of bonded debt. These rate  
21 adjustments may exceed the fiscal growth factor. The services and  
22 activities fee committee provided for in RCW 28B.15.045 may initiate  
23 a request to the governing board for a fee increase.

24 (3) Tuition and services and activities fees consistent with  
25 subsection (2) of this section shall be set by the state board for  
26 community and technical colleges for community and technical college  
27 summer school students unless the college charges fees in accordance  
28 with RCW 28B.15.515.

29 (4) Subject to the limitations of RCW 28B.15.910, each governing  
30 board of a community or technical college may charge such fees for  
31 ungraded courses, noncredit courses, community services courses, and  
32 self-supporting courses as it, in its discretion, may determine,  
33 consistent with the rules of the state board for community and  
34 technical colleges.

35 (5) The governing board of a college offering an applied  
36 baccalaureate degree program under RCW 28B.50.810 or a bachelor of  
37 science degree program described in RCW 28B.50.825 may charge tuition  
38 fees for those courses above the associate degree level at rates  
39 consistent with rules adopted by the state board for community and

1 technical colleges, not to exceed tuition fee rates at the regional  
2 universities.

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