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ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1570

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State of Washington

64th Legislature

2015 Regular Session

By House Education (originally sponsored by Representatives Gregory, Bergquist, S. Hunt, Reykdal, Kilduff, Ortiz-Self, and Pollet; by request of Governor Inslee)

READ FIRST TIME 02/20/15.

1 AN ACT Relating to creating flexibility for the educator  
2 retooling conditional scholarship program; and amending RCW  
3 28A.660.045 and 28A.660.050.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.660.045 and 2015 1st sp.s. c 3 s 3 are each  
6 amended to read as follows:

7 (1) The educator retooling conditional scholarship program is  
8 created. Participation is limited to current K-12 teachers and  
9 individuals having an elementary education certificate but who are  
10 not employed in positions requiring an elementary education  
11 certificate. It is anticipated that candidates enrolled in this  
12 program will complete the requirements for an endorsement in two  
13 years or less.

14 (2) Entry requirements for candidates include:

15 (a) Current K-12 teachers shall pursue an endorsement in a  
16 subject or geographic endorsement shortage area, as defined by the  
17 professional educator standards board, including but not limited to,  
18 mathematics, science, special education, bilingual education, English  
19 language learner, computer science education, or environmental and  
20 sustainability education.

1 (b) Individuals having an elementary education certificate but  
2 who are not employed in positions requiring an elementary education  
3 certificate shall pursue an endorsement in a subject or geographic  
4 endorsement shortage area, as defined by the professional educator  
5 standards board, including but not limited to, mathematics, science,  
6 special education, bilingual education, English language learner,  
7 computer science education, or environmental and sustainability  
8 education.

9 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.660.050 and 2015 1st sp.s. c 3 s 4 are each  
10 amended to read as follows:

11 Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for these  
12 purposes, the conditional scholarship programs in this chapter are  
13 created under the following guidelines:

14 (1) The programs shall be administered by the student achievement  
15 council. In administering the programs, the council has the following  
16 powers and duties:

17 (a) To adopt necessary rules and develop guidelines to administer  
18 the programs;

19 (b) To collect and manage repayments from participants who do not  
20 meet their service obligations; and

21 (c) To accept grants and donations from public and private  
22 sources for the programs.

23 (2) Requirements for participation in the conditional scholarship  
24 programs are as provided in this subsection (2).

25 (a) The alternative route conditional scholarship program is  
26 limited to interns of professional educator standards board-approved  
27 alternative routes to teaching programs under RCW 28A.660.040. For  
28 fiscal year 2011, priority must be given to fiscal year 2010  
29 participants in the alternative route partnership program. In order  
30 to receive conditional scholarship awards, recipients shall:

31 (i) Be accepted and maintain enrollment in alternative  
32 certification routes through a professional educator standards board-  
33 approved program;

34 (ii) Continue to make satisfactory progress toward completion of  
35 the alternative route certification program and receipt of a  
36 residency teaching certificate; and

37 (iii) Receive no more than the annual amount of the scholarship,  
38 not to exceed eight thousand dollars, for the cost of tuition, fees,  
39 and educational expenses, including books, supplies, and

1 transportation for the alternative route certification program in  
2 which the recipient is enrolled. The council may adjust the annual  
3 award by the average rate of resident undergraduate tuition and fee  
4 increases at the state universities as defined in RCW 28B.10.016.

5 (b) The pipeline for paraeducators conditional scholarship  
6 program is limited to qualified paraeducators as provided by RCW  
7 28A.660.042. In order to receive conditional scholarship awards,  
8 recipients shall:

9 (i) Be accepted and maintain enrollment at a community and  
10 technical college for no more than two years and attain an associate  
11 of arts degree;

12 (ii) Continue to make satisfactory progress toward completion of  
13 an associate of arts degree. This progress requirement is a condition  
14 for eligibility into a route one program of the alternative routes to  
15 teacher certification program for a mathematics, special education,  
16 or English as a second language endorsement; and

17 (iii) Receive no more than the annual amount of the scholarship,  
18 not to exceed four thousand dollars, for the cost of tuition, fees,  
19 and educational expenses, including books, supplies, and  
20 transportation for the alternative route certification program in  
21 which the recipient is enrolled. The student achievement council may  
22 adjust the annual award by the average rate of tuition and fee  
23 increases at the state community and technical colleges.

24 (c) The educator retooling conditional scholarship program is  
25 limited to current K-12 teachers. In order to receive conditional  
26 scholarship awards:

27 (i) Individuals currently employed as teachers shall pursue an  
28 endorsement in a subject or geographic endorsement shortage area, as  
29 defined by the professional educator standards board, including but  
30 not limited to, mathematics, science, special education, bilingual  
31 education, English language learner, computer science education, or  
32 environmental and sustainability education; or

33 (ii) Individuals who are certificated with an elementary  
34 education endorsement shall pursue an endorsement in a subject or  
35 geographic endorsement shortage area, as defined by the professional  
36 educator standards board, including but not limited to, mathematics,  
37 science, special education, bilingual education, English language  
38 learner, computer science education, or environmental and  
39 sustainability education; and

1 (iii) Individuals shall use one of the pathways to endorsement  
2 processes to receive an endorsement in a subject or geographic  
3 endorsement shortage area, as defined by the professional educator  
4 standards board, including but not limited to, mathematics, science,  
5 special education, bilingual education, English language learner,  
6 computer science education, or environmental and sustainability  
7 education, which shall include passing an endorsement test plus  
8 observation and completing applicable coursework to attain the proper  
9 endorsement; and

10 (iv) Individuals shall receive no more than the annual amount of  
11 the scholarship, not to exceed three thousand dollars, for the cost  
12 of tuition, test fees, and educational expenses, including books,  
13 supplies, and transportation for the endorsement pathway being  
14 pursued.

15 (3) The Washington professional educator standards board shall  
16 select individuals to receive conditional scholarships. In selecting  
17 recipients, preference shall be given to eligible veterans or  
18 national guard members. In awarding conditional scholarships to  
19 support additional bilingual education or English language learner  
20 endorsements, the board shall also give preference to teachers  
21 assigned to schools required under state or federal accountability  
22 measures to implement a plan for improvement, and to teachers  
23 assigned to schools whose enrollment of English language learner  
24 students has increased an average of more than five percent per year  
25 over the previous three years.

26 (4) For the purpose of this chapter, a conditional scholarship is  
27 a loan that is forgiven in whole or in part in exchange for service  
28 as a certificated teacher employed in a Washington state K-12 public  
29 school. The state shall forgive one year of loan obligation for every  
30 two years a recipient teaches in a public school. Recipients who fail  
31 to continue a course of study leading to residency teacher  
32 certification or cease to teach in a public school in the state of  
33 Washington in their endorsement area are required to repay the  
34 remaining loan principal with interest.

35 (5) Recipients who fail to fulfill the required teaching  
36 obligation are required to repay the remaining loan principal with  
37 interest and any other applicable fees. The student achievement  
38 council shall adopt rules to define the terms for repayment,  
39 including applicable interest rates, fees, and deferments.

1           (6)    The    student    achievement    council    may    deposit    all  
2   appropriations, collections, and any other funds received for the  
3   program in this chapter in the future teachers conditional  
4   scholarship account authorized in RCW 28B.102.080.

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