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**ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2441**

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AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

Passed Legislature - 2024 Regular Session

**State of Washington                      68th Legislature                      2024 Regular Session**

**By** House Appropriations (originally sponsored by Representatives Corry, Slatter, Stokesbary, Leavitt, and Jacobsen)

READ FIRST TIME 02/05/24.

1            AN ACT Relating to a pilot program eliminating college in the  
2 high school fees for private not-for-profit four-year institutions;  
3 adding new sections to chapter 28B.10 RCW; and providing an  
4 expiration date.

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

6            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.**    A new section is added to chapter 28B.10  
7 RCW to read as follows:

8            (1) Subject to the amounts appropriated for this specific  
9 purpose, the student achievement council shall select a private, not-  
10 for-profit four-year institution as defined in RCW 28B.07.020(4) with  
11 a main campus located in Yakima county and who serves rural or  
12 underserved communities to participate in a pilot program to offer  
13 college in the high school courses at no cost to the students  
14 enrolling in the courses.

15            (2) The student achievement council shall distribute funds to the  
16 pilot institution at a rate of \$300 per student, up to a maximum of  
17 \$6,000 per college in the high school course administered by the  
18 pilot institution.

19            (3) College in the high school courses shall not include content  
20 or instruction that would subject students to religious behavior or  
21 conduct by the pilot institution or its faculty.

1 (4) (a) The pilot institution shall provide the following  
2 information to the student achievement council by November 1, 2025,  
3 and annually thereafter:

4 (i) College in the high school courses offered, including:

5 (A) The name of each course;

6 (B) The number of courses offered;

7 (C) The specific locations where the courses are taught; and

8 (D) Student enrollment information disaggregated by school  
9 districts and high schools;

10 (ii) Data on college in the high school student demographics;

11 (iii) Awards of postsecondary credit at the pilot institution;

12 and

13 (iv) The academic performance of students taking the offered  
14 college in the high school courses.

15 (b) The student achievement council shall compile the information  
16 provided in (a) of this subsection and provide a report to the  
17 legislature by December 1, 2025, and annually thereafter, in  
18 compliance with RCW 43.01.036.

19 (5) As used in this section:

20 (a) "Course" means a class taught under a contract between an  
21 institution and a single high school teacher on an articulated  
22 subject in which the student is eligible to receive college credit.

23 (b) "High school" means a public school, as defined in RCW  
24 28A.150.010, that serves students in any of grades nine through 12.

25 (6) This section expires December 31, 2030.

26 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.10  
27 RCW to read as follows:

28 (1) In administering section 1 of this act, the student  
29 achievement council shall adopt rules which allow for each  
30 institution of higher education to annually sign an affidavit that  
31 the institution has adopted policies in compliance with this section.  
32 The affidavit must attest to the following nondiscrimination  
33 policies:

34 (a) The institution prohibits discrimination on the basis of  
35 race, creed, color, national origin, citizenship or immigration  
36 status, sex, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, or the  
37 presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability or the use of  
38 a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability;

1 (b) The institution operates its education program or activity in  
2 a manner free of discrimination. No student may be excluded from  
3 participation in an education program or activity, denied the  
4 benefits of an education program or activity, or subjected to  
5 discrimination on the basis of that student's age, sex, marital  
6 status, sexual orientation, race, creed, color, national origin,  
7 citizenship or immigration status, veteran or military status, or the  
8 presence of any sensory mental, or physical disability or the use of  
9 a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability,  
10 unless based upon bona fide qualification of the education program;  
11 and

12 (c) The institution, acting in its capacity as an employer, does  
13 not:

14 (i) Refuse to hire, promote, or confer tenure to any person  
15 because of age, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, race, creed,  
16 color, national origin, citizenship or immigration status, veteran or  
17 military status, or the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical  
18 disability or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a  
19 person with a disability, unless based upon bona fide occupational  
20 qualification. However, the prohibition against discrimination  
21 because of a disability in this subsection (1)(c)(i) does not apply  
22 if the particular disability prevents the proper performance of the  
23 particular work involved. This subsection may not be construed to  
24 require an employer to establish employment goals or quotas based on  
25 sexual orientation;

26 (ii) Discharge or bar any person from employment because of age,  
27 sex, marital status, sexual orientation, race, creed, color, national  
28 origin, citizenship or immigration status, veteran or military  
29 status, or the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical  
30 disability or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a  
31 person with a disability;

32 (iii) Discriminate against any person in compensation or in other  
33 terms or conditions of employment because of age, sex, marital  
34 status, sexual orientation, race, creed, color, national origin,  
35 citizenship or immigration status, veteran or military status, or the  
36 presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability or the use of  
37 a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability.  
38 However, this section does not prohibit an employer from segregating  
39 wash rooms or locker room facilities on the basis of sex, or basing  
40 other terms and conditions of employment on the sex of employees

1 where the Washington state human rights commission, created under  
2 chapter 49.60 RCW, has by regulation or ruling in a particular  
3 instance found the employment practice to be appropriate for the  
4 practical realization of equality of opportunity between the sexes;  
5 or

6 (iv) Print or circulate, or cause to be printed or circulated,  
7 any statement, advertisement, or publication, or use any form of  
8 application for employment, or make any inquiry in connection with  
9 prospective employment, which expresses any limitation,  
10 specification, or discrimination as to age, sex, marital status,  
11 sexual orientation, race, creed, color, national origin, citizenship  
12 or immigration status, veteran or military status, or the presence of  
13 any sensory, mental, or physical disability or the use of a trained  
14 dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability; or any  
15 intent to make any such limitation, specification, or discrimination,  
16 unless based upon a bona fide occupational qualification. However,  
17 nothing in this subsection prohibits advertising in a foreign  
18 language.

19 (2) Participation in theology academic programs and campus  
20 ministry departments, including the employment, promotion, or  
21 granting of tenure of faculty members for courses of study in  
22 theology, is exempt from the requirements under this section.

23 (3) Institutions of higher education that take no action  
24 regarding the signing of the affidavit are ineligible to participate  
25 in the pilot program in section 1 of this act.

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