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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2119**

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**State of Washington                      61st Legislature                      2009 Regular Session**

**By** House Education (originally sponsored by Representatives Wallace, Carlyle, Sullivan, Morrell, Quall, Santos, and Ormsby)

READ FIRST TIME 02/23/09.

1            AN ACT Relating to expanding dual credit opportunities; amending  
2 RCW 28A.225.290, 28A.600.160, 28A.600.300, and 28A.600.310; adding new  
3 sections to chapter 28A.600 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

5            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that the economy  
6 of the state of Washington requires a well-prepared workforce. To meet  
7 the need, more Washington students need to be prepared for  
8 postsecondary education and training. Further, the personal enrichment  
9 and success of Washington citizens increasingly relies on their ability  
10 to use the state's postsecondary education and training system. To  
11 accomplish those ends, the legislature desires to increase the number  
12 of students who begin earning college credits while still in high  
13 school.

14            (2) The legislature further finds that dual credit programs  
15 introduce students to college-level work, provide a jump start on  
16 getting a college degree, and, perhaps most importantly, show students  
17 that they can succeed in college. Dual credit programs also provide  
18 another avenue of student financial aid, since many programs are  
19 offered for little or no cost to students.

1 (3) The legislature also finds that students must be provided a  
2 choice when selecting a dual credit program that is right for them.  
3 Options should be available for the student who wants to learn on a  
4 college campus and the student who wants to stay at the high school and  
5 take college-level courses. Options must also be available for the  
6 hands-on learner who seeks to complete an apprenticeship program.

7 (4) The legislature intends to blur the line between high school  
8 and college by articulating a vision to dramatically increase  
9 participation in dual credit programs. It is for this reason that the  
10 legislature should call on all education stakeholders to come together  
11 to coordinate resources, track outcomes, and improve program  
12 availability.

13 (5) The legislature further intends to provide high schools,  
14 colleges, and universities with a set of tools for growing and  
15 coordinating dual credit programs. Institutions should be given some  
16 flexibility in determining the best methods to secure long-term, ample  
17 financial support for these programs, while students should be given  
18 some help in offsetting instructional costs.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.600  
20 RCW to read as follows:

21 (1) The office of the superintendent of public instruction, in  
22 collaboration with the state board for community and technical  
23 colleges, the Washington state apprenticeship and training council, the  
24 workforce training and education coordinating board, the higher  
25 education coordinating board, and the public baccalaureate  
26 institutions, shall report by September 1, 2010, and annually  
27 thereafter to the education and higher education committees of the  
28 legislature regarding participation in dual credit programs. The  
29 report shall include:

30 (a) Data about student participation rates and academic performance  
31 including but not limited to running start, college in the high school,  
32 tech prep, international baccalaureate, advanced placement, and running  
33 start for the trades;

34 (b) Data on the total unduplicated head count of students enrolled  
35 in at least one dual credit program course; and

36 (c) The percentage of students who enrolled in at least one dual

1 credit program as percent of all students enrolled in grades nine  
2 through twelve.

3 (2) Data on student participation shall be disaggregated by race,  
4 ethnicity, gender, and receipt of free or reduced-price lunch.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.600  
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 (1) The superintendent of public instruction, the state board for  
8 community and technical colleges, the higher education coordinating  
9 board, and the public baccalaureate institutions shall jointly develop  
10 and each adopt rules governing the college in the high school program.  
11 The association of Washington school principals shall be consulted  
12 during the rules development. The rules shall be written to encourage  
13 the maximum use of the program and may not narrow or limit the  
14 enrollment options.

15 (2) College in the high school programs shall each be governed by  
16 a local contract between the district and the institution of higher  
17 education, in compliance with the guidelines adopted by the  
18 superintendent of public instruction, the state board for community and  
19 technical colleges, and the public baccalaureate institutions.

20 (3) The college in the high school program must include the  
21 provisions in this subsection.

22 (a) The high school and institution of higher education together  
23 shall define the criteria for student eligibility. The institution of  
24 higher education may charge tuition fees to participating students.

25 (b) School districts shall report no student for more than one  
26 full-time equivalent including college in the high school courses.

27 (c) The funds received by the institution of higher education may  
28 not be deemed tuition or operating fees and may be retained by the  
29 institution of higher education.

30 (d) Enrollment information on persons registered under this section  
31 must be maintained by the institution of higher education separately  
32 from other enrollment information and may not be included in official  
33 enrollment reports, nor may such persons be considered in any  
34 enrollment statistics that would affect higher education budgetary  
35 determinations.

36 (e) A school district must grant high school credit to a student  
37 enrolled in a program course if the student successfully completes the

1 course. If no comparable course is offered by the school district, the  
2 school district superintendent shall determine how many credits to  
3 award for the course. The determination shall be made in writing  
4 before the student enrolls in the course. The credits shall be applied  
5 toward graduation requirements and subject area requirements. Evidence  
6 of successful completion of each program course shall be included in  
7 the student's secondary school records and transcript.

8 (f) An institution of higher education must grant college credit to  
9 a student enrolled in a program course if the student successfully  
10 completes the course. The college credit shall be applied toward  
11 general education requirements or major requirements. If no comparable  
12 course is offered by the college, the institution of higher education  
13 at which the teacher of the program course is employed shall determine  
14 how many credits to award for the course and whether the course  
15 fulfills general education or major requirements. Evidence of  
16 successful completion of each program course must be included in the  
17 student's college transcript.

18 (g) Eleventh and twelfth grade students or students who have not  
19 yet received a high school diploma or its equivalent and are eligible  
20 to be in the eleventh or twelfth grades may participate in the college  
21 in the high school program.

22 (h) Participating school districts must provide general information  
23 about the college in the high school program to all students in grades  
24 ten, eleven, and twelve and to the parents and guardians of those  
25 students.

26 (i) Full-time and part-time faculty at institutions of higher  
27 education, including adjunct faculty, are eligible to teach program  
28 courses.

29 (4) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this  
30 section.

31 (a) "Institution of higher education" has the meaning in RCW  
32 28B.10.016 and also includes a public tribal college located in  
33 Washington and accredited by the Northwest commission on colleges and  
34 universities or another accrediting association recognized by the  
35 United States department of education.

36 (b) "Program course" means a college course offered in a high  
37 school under the college in the high school program.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 4.**    A new section is added to chapter 28A.600  
2    RCW to read as follows:

3        The superintendent of public instruction and the higher education  
4    coordinating board shall develop advising guidelines to assure that  
5    students and parents understand that college credits earned in high  
6    school dual credit programs may impact eligibility for financial aid.

7        **Sec. 5.**    RCW 28A.225.290 and 1990 1st ex.s. c 9 s 207 are each  
8    amended to read as follows:

9        (1) The superintendent of public instruction shall prepare and  
10    annually distribute an information booklet outlining parents' and  
11    guardians' enrollment options for their children.

12        (2) Before the 1991-92 school year, the booklet shall be  
13    distributed to all school districts by the office of the superintendent  
14    of public instruction. School districts shall have a copy of the  
15    information booklet available for public inspection at each school in  
16    the district, at the district office, and in public libraries.

17        (3) The booklet shall include:

18        (a) Information about enrollment options and program opportunities,  
19    including but not limited to programs in RCW 28A.225.220, 28A.185.040,  
20    28A.225.200 through 28A.225.215, 28A.225.230 through 28A.225.250,  
21    (~~28A.175.090,~~) 28A.340.010 through 28A.340.070 (small high school  
22    cooperative projects), and 28A.335.160.

23        (b) Information about the running start (~~((community college or~~  
24    ~~vocational technical institute))~~ choice program under RCW 28A.600.300  
25    through (~~28A.600.395~~) 28A.600.400; and

26        (c) Information about the seventh and eighth grade choice program  
27    under RCW 28A.230.090.

28        **Sec. 6.**    RCW 28A.600.160 and 1998 c 225 s 2 are each amended to  
29    read as follows:

30        Any middle school, junior high school, or high school using  
31    educational pathways shall ensure that all participating students will  
32    continue to have access to the courses and instruction necessary to  
33    meet admission requirements at baccalaureate institutions. Students  
34    shall be allowed to enter the educational pathway of their choice.  
35    Before accepting a student into an educational pathway, the school  
36    shall inform the student's parent of the pathway chosen, the

1 opportunities available to the student through the pathway, and the  
2 career objectives the student will have exposure to while pursuing the  
3 pathway. Parents and students dissatisfied with the opportunities  
4 available through the selected educational pathway shall be provided  
5 with the opportunity to transfer the student to any other pathway  
6 provided in the school. Schools may not develop educational pathways  
7 that retain students in high school beyond the date they are eligible  
8 to graduate, and may not require students who transfer between pathways  
9 to complete pathway requirements beyond the date the student is  
10 eligible to graduate. Educational pathways may include, but are not  
11 limited to, programs such as (~~work-based~~) worksite learning,  
12 (~~school-to-work transition~~) internships, tech prep, (~~vocational~~)  
13 career and technical education, running start, college in the high  
14 school, running start for the trades, and preparation for technical  
15 college, community college, or university education.

16 **Sec. 7.** RCW 28A.600.300 and 2005 c 207 s 5 are each amended to  
17 read as follows:

18 (1) The program established in this section through RCW 28A.600.400  
19 shall be known as the running start program.

20 (2) For the purposes of RCW 28A.600.310 through 28A.600.400,  
21 "participating institution of higher education" or "institution of  
22 higher education" means:

23 (~~(+1)~~) (a) A community or technical college as defined in RCW  
24 28B.50.030;

25 (~~(+2)~~) (b) A public tribal college located in Washington and  
26 accredited by the northwest commission on colleges and universities or  
27 another accrediting association recognized by the United States  
28 department of education; and

29 (~~(+3)~~) (c) Central Washington University, Eastern Washington  
30 University, Washington State University, and The Evergreen State  
31 College, if the institution's governing board decides to participate in  
32 the program in RCW 28A.600.310 through 28A.600.400.

33 **Sec. 8.** RCW 28A.600.310 and 2005 c 125 s 1 are each amended to  
34 read as follows:

35 (1) Eleventh and twelfth grade students or students who have not  
36 yet received the credits required for the award of a high school

1 diploma and are eligible to be in the eleventh or twelfth grades may  
2 apply to a participating institution of higher education to enroll in  
3 courses or programs offered by the institution of higher education. A  
4 student receiving home-based instruction enrolling in a public high  
5 school for the sole purpose of participating in courses or programs  
6 offered by institutions of higher education shall not be counted by the  
7 school district in any required state or federal accountability  
8 reporting if the student's parents or guardians filed a declaration of  
9 intent to provide home-based instruction and the student received home-  
10 based instruction during the school year before the school year in  
11 which the student intends to participate in courses or programs offered  
12 by the institution of higher education. Students receiving home-based  
13 instruction under chapter 28A.200 RCW and students attending private  
14 schools approved under chapter 28A.195 RCW shall not be required to  
15 meet the student learning goals, obtain a certificate of academic  
16 achievement or a certificate of individual achievement to graduate from  
17 high school, or to master the essential academic learning requirements.  
18 However, students are eligible to enroll in courses or programs in  
19 participating universities only if the board of directors of the  
20 student's school district has decided to participate in the program.  
21 Participating institutions of higher education, in consultation with  
22 school districts, may establish admission standards for these students.  
23 If the institution of higher education accepts a secondary school pupil  
24 for enrollment under this section, the institution of higher education  
25 shall send written notice to the pupil and the pupil's school district  
26 within ten days of acceptance. The notice shall indicate the course  
27 and hours of enrollment for that pupil.

28 (2) In lieu of tuition and fees, as defined in RCW 28B.15.020 and  
29 28B.15.041, running start students shall pay to the institution of  
30 higher education all other mandatory fees as established by each  
31 institution of higher education. The institution of higher education  
32 shall prorate the mandatory fees based on credit load.

33 (3) The institution of higher education must make available fee  
34 waivers for low-income students. Each institution must establish a  
35 written policy for the determination of low-income students before  
36 offering the fee waiver. A student shall be considered low income and  
37 eligible for a fee waiver upon proof that the student is currently  
38 qualified to receive free or reduced-price lunch. Acceptable

1 documentation of low-income status may also include, but is not limited  
2 to, documentation that a student has been deemed eligible for free or  
3 reduced-price lunches in the last five years, or other criteria  
4 established in the institution's policy.

5 (4) The pupil's school district shall transmit to the institution  
6 of higher education an amount per each full-time equivalent college  
7 student at statewide uniform rates for vocational and nonvocational  
8 students. The superintendent of public instruction shall separately  
9 calculate and allocate moneys appropriated for basic education under  
10 RCW 28A.150.260 to school districts for purposes of making such  
11 payments and for granting school districts seven percent thereof to  
12 offset program related costs. The calculations and allocations shall  
13 be based upon the estimated statewide annual average per full-time  
14 equivalent high school student allocations under RCW 28A.150.260,  
15 excluding small high school enhancements, and applicable rules adopted  
16 under chapter 34.05 RCW. The superintendent of public instruction, the  
17 higher education coordinating board, and the state board for community  
18 and technical colleges shall consult on the calculation and  
19 distribution of the funds. (~~The institution of higher education shall~~  
20 ~~not require the pupil to pay any other fees.~~) The funds received by  
21 the institution of higher education from the school district shall not  
22 be deemed tuition or operating fees and may be retained by the  
23 institution of higher education. A student enrolled under this  
24 subsection shall (~~not~~) be counted for the purpose of (~~determining~~  
25 ~~any~~) meeting enrollment (~~restrictions~~) targets imposed by the state  
26 on the institution of higher education, however, enrollments under this  
27 section shall not be counted for purposes of funding under chapter  
28 28B.10 RCW and shall not displace any students currently enrolled.

29 (5) The state board for community and technical colleges shall  
30 develop long-term funding proposals to support running start that may  
31 include, but not be limited to, student tuition and performance  
32 funding. The state board for community and technical colleges shall  
33 report its recommendations to the legislature by December 1, 2010.

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