
SENATE BILL 6133

State of Washington 60th Legislature 2007 Regular Session

By Senators Roach and Benton

Read first time 02/27/2007. Referred to Committee on Higher Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to tuition setting authority; amending RCW
2 28B.15.067; and creating a new section.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that it is imperative
5 for Washington citizens to have access to an affordable higher
6 education. The legislature further finds that ever-increasing tuition
7 at state colleges and universities has made higher education
8 increasingly unaffordable for many families and students. The
9 legislature also finds that increasing tuition at state colleges and
10 universities has made family and student financial planning for higher
11 education difficult. It is the intent of the legislature to require
12 that tuition levels at state colleges and universities be stabilized
13 for families and students by freezing the tuition fee rates for full-
14 time students at the level in effect on their first day of class.

15 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28B.15.067 and 2006 c 161 s 6 are each amended to read
16 as follows:

17 (1) Tuition fees shall be established under the provisions of this
18 chapter.

1 (2) Beginning with the 2003-04 academic year and ending with the
2 2008-09 academic year, reductions or increases in full-time tuition
3 fees for resident undergraduates shall be as provided in the omnibus
4 appropriations act.

5 (3) Beginning with the 2003-04 academic year and ending with the
6 2008-09 academic year, the governing boards of the state universities,
7 the regional universities, The Evergreen State College, and the state
8 board for community and technical colleges may reduce or increase full-
9 time tuition fees for all students other than resident undergraduates,
10 including summer school students and students in other self-supporting
11 degree programs. Percentage increases in full-time tuition fees may
12 exceed the fiscal growth factor. Reductions or increases may be made
13 for all or portions of an institution's programs, campuses, courses, or
14 students.

15 (4) Academic year tuition for full-time students at the state's
16 institutions of higher education beginning with 2009-10, other than
17 summer term, shall be as charged during the 2008-09 academic year
18 unless different rates are adopted by the legislature.

19 (5) The tuition fees established under this chapter shall not apply
20 to high school students enrolling in participating institutions of
21 higher education under RCW 28A.600.300 through 28A.600.400.

22 (6) The tuition fees established under this chapter shall not apply
23 to eligible students enrolling in a community or technical college
24 under RCW 28C.04.610.

25 (7) For the academic years 2003-04 through 2008-09, the University
26 of Washington shall use an amount equivalent to ten percent of all
27 revenues received as a result of law school tuition increases beginning
28 in academic year 2000-01 through academic year 2008-09 to assist needy
29 low and middle income resident law students.

30 (8) For the academic years 2003-04 through 2008-09, institutions of
31 higher education shall use an amount equivalent to ten percent of all
32 revenues received as a result of graduate academic school tuition
33 increases beginning in academic year 2003-04 through academic year
34 2008-09 to assist needy low and middle-income resident graduate
35 academic students.

36 (9)(a) Beginning with the 2007-08 academic year, for the duration
37 of each full-time student's enrollment and full-time attendance at a
38 college or university, tuition fees for each full-time student shall

1 remain fixed at the rate in effect on the first day of the first
2 academic term in which that student is enrolled. Colleges and
3 universities may only make annual inflation adjustments to tuition fees
4 charged to each full-time student.

5 (b) For full-time students who have attended colleges or
6 universities before the 2007-08 academic year, tuition fees for each
7 full-time student shall remain fixed at the rate in effect on the first
8 day of the first academic term of the 2007-08 academic year. Colleges
9 and universities may only make annual inflation adjustments to tuition
10 fees charged to each full-time student.

11 (10) Subsection (9) of this section does not apply when a full-time
12 student withdraws from a college or university, transfers to a
13 different college or university, or relinquishes full-time status.
14 When a former full-time student later reenrolls as a full-time student,
15 tuition fees shall remain fixed at the rate in effect on the first day
16 of the first academic term of reenrollment as a full-time student.
17 When a full-time student transfers to a different college or
18 university, tuition fees shall remain fixed at the rate in effect on
19 the first day of the first academic term that the full-time student is
20 enrolled at that college or university. However, this subsection does
21 not apply if a full-time student withdraws from a college or
22 university, or relinquishes full-time status because of serious medical
23 illness or personal injury, or because of military service, including
24 national guard duty or reserve activation. Upon later reenrollment as
25 a full-time student, the student's tuition fees shall remain fixed at
26 the rate in effect on the first day of the first academic term
27 following the 2007-08 academic year that the full-time student was
28 enrolled at that college or university, pursuant to subsection (9) of
29 this section.

30 (11) Subsection (9) of this section does not apply when a full-time
31 student who has received an undergraduate degree at a college or
32 university is immediately enrolled as a full-time student in a graduate
33 degree program at the same college or university. When a full-time
34 student who has received an undergraduate degree at a college or
35 university is immediately enrolled as a full-time student in a graduate
36 degree program at the same college or university, tuition fees shall
37 remain fixed at the rate in effect on the first day of the first
38 academic term that the full-time student is enrolled in any graduate

1 program at that college or university. Colleges and universities may
2 only make annual inflation adjustments to tuition fees charged to each
3 full-time student.

4 (12) As used in this section, "inflation" means the percentage
5 change in the implicit price deflator for the United States for each
6 fiscal year as published by the federal bureau of labor statistics.

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