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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5706**

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**State of Washington**

**66th Legislature**

**2019 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Higher Education & Workforce Development (originally sponsored by Senators Randall, Wellman, Kuderer, Nguyen, and Wilson, C.)

READ FIRST TIME 02/18/19.

1 AN ACT Relating to accreditation standards for college in the  
2 high school programs; and adding a new section to chapter 28B.10 RCW.

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

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

6 (1) To establish a uniform standard by which concurrent  
7 enrollment programs and professional development activities may be  
8 measured, any college or university offering concurrent enrollment  
9 program courses at a public high school, or college in the high  
10 school programs under RCW 28A.600.290, must receive accreditation by  
11 a national accrediting body for concurrent enrollment by the 2027-28  
12 school year.

13 (2) Any college or university engaged in concurrent enrollment  
14 program courses at a public high school, or college in the high  
15 school programs under RCW 28A.600.290, during or before the 2019-20  
16 academic year that are not accredited by a national accrediting body  
17 for concurrent enrollment must continue to meet the same quality and  
18 eligibility standards, and obtain approval in a manner consistent  
19 with the procedure established by the rules under RCW 28A.600.290 for  
20 the college in the high school program, until the program is  
21 accredited by a national accrediting body for concurrent enrollment.

1 (3) After the 2027-28 school year, any college or university with  
2 concurrent enrollment program courses in place at a public high  
3 school, or college in the high school programs under RCW 28A.600.290,  
4 during or before the 2019-20 academic year that have not been  
5 accredited in accordance with subsection (1) of this section or do  
6 not have an application pending further action by the accrediting  
7 body under subsection (1) of this section may not offer a concurrent  
8 enrollment program course at a public high school or college in the  
9 high school program under RCW 28A.600.290.

10 (4) New college and university concurrent enrollment program  
11 courses that are implemented after the 2019-20 academic year have  
12 seven years from the beginning of the first term of classes to submit  
13 an application for accreditation for review by a national accrediting  
14 body for concurrent enrollment to comply with this section.

15 (5) All colleges and universities are encouraged to provide  
16 institutional resources to support the transition to accreditation,  
17 including professional development, engage with national associations  
18 focused on concurrent enrollment accreditation, and collaboration  
19 with the state board for community and technical colleges or an  
20 organization that represents the public, four-year universities, and  
21 colleges.

22 (6) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this  
23 section unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

24 (a) "Concurrent enrollment program" means a partnership between  
25 K-12 schools and postsecondary education institutions through which  
26 credit-bearing college courses offered by public or private  
27 institutions of higher education and taught by appropriately  
28 qualified high school teachers are taken in high school by high  
29 school students who have not yet received the credits required for  
30 the award of a high school diploma, and for which earned credits are  
31 recorded on a college or university transcript. "Concurrent  
32 enrollment program" does not include programs under RCW 28B.50.531 or  
33 the running start program.

34 (b) "Public high school" means a high school that is a public  
35 school as defined in RCW 28A.150.010.

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