HOUSE BILL NO. HB0033

Expanded opportunity pilot program.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Hammons, Craft, Jaggi,
                McOmie and Wallis and Senator(s) Anderson,
                J., Coe, Massie and Von Flatern

A BILL

for

1   AN ACT relating to public education; establishing a grant

2   program funding pilot projects during the 2009-2010

3   academic year that provide innovative education delivery to

4   students at-risk of dropping out of high school prior to

5   graduation; delegating program administration to the

6   Wyoming community college commission; imposing reporting

7   requirements upon grant recipients; providing an

8   appropriation; and providing for an effective date.

9

10 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

11

12   **Section 1.**

13

14   (a) One hundred sixty thousand dollars ($160,000.00)

15 is appropriated from the public school foundation program

16 account to the Wyoming community college commission to be

1   expended   for   the   expanded   opportunity   pilot   program

2   established   and   authorized   under   this   section.   This

3   appropriation   shall   be   for   the   period   beginning   with   the

4   effective date of this act and ending June 30, 2010.

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6   (b)   The   expanded   opportunity   pilot   program   is

7   established under this section to provide programs targeted

8   at   reducing   high   school   drop-out   rates   through   a

9   collaborative effort between Wyoming community colleges and

10 Wyoming public high schools situated within the colleges'

11 defined service area.   Programs eligible for grant awards

12 under this section shall consist of the following programs

13 which comply with requirements and criteria established by

14 the   commission   in   consultation   with   the   department   of

15 education:

16

17   (i)   Concurrent   and   dual   high   school-community

18 college enrollment education programs targeted at students

19 identified as gifted and talented and at-risk of dropping

20 out of high school;

21

22   (ii)   Concurrent   and   dual   high   school-community

23 college   enrollment   career-technical   education   programs

1 targeted at students identified as at-risk of dropping out

2 of high school;

3

4   (iii) Education programs delivered innovatively

5 through such options as coordinated electronic system

6 technology or at times beyond regular school hours or

7 sessions which facilitate students attempting to complete

8 necessary course work fulfilling high school graduation

9 requirements;

10

11   (iv) Programs providing basic educational

12 requirements necessary for entry into and success in post-

13 secondary level academic and career-technical education

14 programs which target participation by identified student

15 populations at-risk of dropping out of high school;

16

17   (v) Additional innovative programs providing

18 educational opportunities to identified at-risk students

19 through combined high school-community college

20 collaborative efforts.

21

22   (c) The commission shall provide sufficient

23 notification to community colleges and school districts of

24 the grant program established under this section and shall

1 develop   requirements   and   criteria   governing   program

2 administration   in   sufficient   time   to   enable   program

3 application by July 1, 2009.   Program requirements and

4 criteria shall in addition to application procedures and

5 required program components and content, prescribe uniform

6 methodology for identification of students at-risk of

7 dropping out of high school prior to graduation.   Although

8 eligible programs are targeted to student populations at-

9 risk of dropping out of high school, the commission shall

10 not exclusively limit enrollment in an eligible program to

11 at-risk students only.

12

13   (d) Each Wyoming community college may apply to the

14 commission for a grant award under this section on a form,

15 in a manner and within a time period specified by the

16 commission, which shall be applied to expanded opportunity

17 programs offered during the 2009-2010 academic year.

18 Applications shall identify each qualified high school

19 participating in the program and shall at minimum include a

20 description of the proposed expanded opportunity program,

21 the specialized student population to which the program is

22 targeted, an outline of the necessary steps in college-high

23 school collaboration and a summary of the program

24 components and educational strategies to be employed.

1

2   (e) From the amount appropriated under subsection (a)

3   of   this   section,   the   commission   shall   award   expanded

4   opportunity program grants among applications filed under

5   this section by not later than August 15, 2009. Each grant

6   awarded to any one (1) qualifying program shall not exceed

7   fifty   thousand   dollars   ($50,000.00),   which   shall   be

8   distributed by the commission to selected applicants on or

9   before August 31, 2009, to enable program delivery during

10   the 2009-2010 academic year.

11

12   (f)   In addition to subsection (e) of this section,

13   the   commission   may   expend   up   to   ten   thousand   dollars

14   ($10,000.00) for administering this section, including the

15   acquisition   of   contractual   services   necessary   to   draft

16   program requirements and criteria and to develop uniform

17   methodology for use in the identification of students at-

18   risk of dropping out of high school prior to graduation.

19

20   (g) Each recipient college shall report by July 1,

21   2010, to the commission on expenditures of grant awards

22   distributed under this section together with information on

23   the expanded opportunity program provided under the award,

24   the   program   strategies   employed   and   the   impact   of   the

1   program on at-risk student populations and an evaluation of

2   the effectiveness of the program on reducing high school

3   drop-out rates.   Not later than August 1, 2010, the

4   commission shall compile the reports and present the

5   compilation to the joint education interim committee

6   together with recommendations pertaining to program

7   continuation and funding.

8

9   **Section 2.** This act is effective immediately upon

10 completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law

11 as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming

12 Constitution.

13

14   (END)