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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5150**

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**State of Washington**

**66th Legislature**

**2019 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Higher Education & Workforce Development (originally sponsored by Senators Wilson, L., Becker, Palumbo, O'Ban, and Short)

1 AN ACT Relating to authority for providing security to the  
2 campuses of the state community and technical colleges; adding a new  
3 section to chapter 28B.050 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that there is a  
6 public interest in protecting students at all levels of their  
7 education. The legislature also finds that there is an increasing  
8 atmosphere of societal unrest, especially on college campuses. The  
9 legislature also finds that the state universities, the regional  
10 universities, and The Evergreen State College are explicitly  
11 authorized to maintain a high level of security. The legislature also  
12 finds that the community and technical colleges have not been given  
13 the authority to maintain the same level of security as the  
14 universities. The legislature intends the community and technical  
15 colleges to also have options to protect their students and campuses  
16 in accordance with the recommendations issued by the mass shootings  
17 work group in 2018. Nothing in this section is intended to mandate  
18 how each college district chooses to protect its students, but  
19 instead is designed to clearly provide explicit authorization for the  
20 community and technical colleges to act as is appropriate for each  
21 college district to provide protection for students and faculty.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 2.**    A new section is added to chapter 28B.50  
2    RCW to read as follows:

3        (1)    The board of trustees for each college district, acting  
4    independently, and each on behalf of its own college district, have  
5    the authority to protect each college campus in a manner and with  
6    personnel appropriate for that campus's culture and environment. Each  
7    board of trustees is authorized to:

8        (a)    Enter into a written agreement with a local law enforcement  
9    agency to assign one or more commissioned law enforcement officers of  
10   the state with sworn authority to make arrests, deployed in  
11   community-oriented policing, and assigned by the employing police  
12   department or sheriff's office to work with the appropriate security,  
13   safety, and emergency management personnel at the community and  
14   technical colleges to ensure the safety of the college campus;

15        (b)    Maintain a public safety department with appropriately  
16   trained officers who may carry weapons, not including firearms, under  
17   the discretion of each community or technical college's public safety  
18   director; and

19        (c)    Contract with public or private entities to provide security  
20   services for the community or technical college as authorized by this  
21   section.

22        (2)    Subsection (1) of this section does not authorize the  
23   carrying or use of firearms by any person other than a commissioned  
24   Washington law enforcement officer.

25        (3)    Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this  
26   specific purpose, the state board for community and technical  
27   colleges and the Washington association of sheriffs and police chiefs  
28   shall develop a template contract and accompanying information to  
29   assist community and technical colleges in contracting for the  
30   provision of security under subsection (1)(a) of this section.

31        (4)    Nothing in this section shall be construed to create a cause  
32   of action against any community or technical college for choosing not  
33   to implement any of the above security measures.

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