A resolution regarding tuition waivers.

WHEREAS the Washington State Legislature has directed that the community and technical colleges reduce tuition waivers; and

WHEREAS the two-year college system has conducted a broad and systematic review of current waiver policies; and

WHEREAS colleges have experienced budget reductions and are increasingly unable to offer courses central to the two-year college mission without tuition support; and

WHEREAS the State Board has received tuition waiver change recommendations that are supported by the community and technical colleges;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the State Board change the current basic skills and apprenticeship course waivers, effective Fall Quarter, 2004, to require a $25 charge per student per quarter for basic skills courses, to allow colleges flexibility to waive the $25 charge for students who cannot pay, and to require colleges to charge up to 50 percent of tuition and services and activities fees for apprenticeship courses. Further, the State Board encourages college districts to review their local optional waivers, and, in so doing to give consideration to needy students. The State Board directs staff to prepare WAC and policy and procedure changes necessary to implement this action.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the State Board directs staff to develop options for using federal and new state funds to address the tuition waiver funding disincentive for colleges to offer basic skills instruction.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the State Board directs staff to develop options for using federal and new state funds to address the tuition waiver funding disincentives for students and for colleges to offer apprenticeship training.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the State Board directs staff to convene an implementation system task force to identify methods for collecting tuition for basic skills and providing need based waivers consistent with the Board’s goals for maintaining the basic skills mission of the college system and access for people who need adult literacy and English as a Second Language instruction.
FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the State Board staff report back in one year on the actual waiver levels for apprenticeship training.


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Tom Koenninger, Chair

ATTEST:

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Earl Hale, Secretary