

**ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2019**  
**COMMITTEE STATEMENT**  
**LB180**

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**Hearing Date:** Tuesday March 12, 2019  
**Committee On:** Education  
**Introducer:** Bolz  
**One Liner:** Change program eligibility criteria under the Community College Gap Assistance Program Act

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**Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:**  
Advanced to General File

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**Vote Results:**

**Aye:** 8 Senators Brewer, Groene, Kolowski, Linehan, Morfeld, Murman,  
Pansing Brooks, Walz

**Nay:**

**Absent:**

**Present Not Voting:**

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**Oral Testimony:**

**Proponents:**

SENATOR KATE BOLZ  
DENNIS HEADRICK  
MIKE BAUMGARTNER

**Representing:**

INTRODUCER  
SOUTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
COORDINATING COMMISSION FOR  
POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

**Opponents:**

**Representing:**

**Neutral:**

**Representing:**

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**Summary of purpose and/or changes:**

The Community College Gap Assistance Program provides funding to community colleges that may be awarded to students in eligible programs that are aligned with training programs with stackable credentials that lead to a program which awards college credit, an associate's degree, a diploma, or a certificate in an in-demand occupation.

LB 180 changes the definition of "eligible program" so that a program which is offered for credit, but is not enough clock, semester, or quarter hours to qualify for Federal Pell Grants, qualifies. Currently, only programs that are not offered for credit and are at least sixteen (16) contact hours in length are eligible programs for the Community College Gap Assistance Program.

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Mike Groene, Chairperson