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SENATE BILL 5676

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State of Washington

61st Legislature

2009 Regular Session

By Senators McAuliffe, Rockefeller, Jarrett, Fairley, Hobbs, Schoesler, and Shin; by request of Superintendent of Public Instruction

Read first time 01/28/09. Referred to Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to middle school career and technical education;  
2 amending RCW 28A.230.130; adding a new section to chapter 28A.660 RCW;  
3 creating a new section; and providing an effective date.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that significant  
6 efforts are under way to improve mathematics and science instruction in  
7 Washington's public schools through development and adoption of new  
8 learning standards, identification of aligned curriculum, and expanded  
9 opportunities for professional development for teachers. A significant  
10 emphasis has also been made on improving career and technical education  
11 programs focused on high-demand programs. Middle schools have  
12 successfully served one thousand four hundred full-time equivalent  
13 students in career and technical programs rich in science, technology,  
14 engineering, and mathematics through a grant program. The legislature  
15 concludes that opportunities for hands-on and applied learning in these  
16 programs should be extended to middle school students on an ongoing,  
17 statewide basis so that students are prepared to take advantage of more  
18 advanced coursework in high school and postsecondary education.

1           **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.230.130 and 2007 c 396 s 14 are each amended to  
2 read as follows:

3           (1) All public high schools of the state shall provide a program,  
4 directly or in cooperation with a community college or another school  
5 district, for students whose educational plans include application for  
6 entrance to a baccalaureate-granting institution after being granted a  
7 high school diploma. The program shall help these students to meet at  
8 least the minimum entrance requirements under RCW 28B.10.050.

9           (2) All public high schools of the state shall provide a program,  
10 directly or in cooperation with a community or technical college, a  
11 skills center, an apprenticeship committee, or another school district,  
12 for students who plan to pursue career or work opportunities other than  
13 entrance to a baccalaureate-granting institution after being granted a  
14 high school diploma. These programs may:

15           (a) Help students demonstrate the application of essential academic  
16 learning requirements to the world of work, occupation-specific skills,  
17 knowledge of more than one career in a chosen pathway, and  
18 employability and leadership skills; and

19           (b) Help students demonstrate the knowledge and skill needed to  
20 prepare for industry certification, and/or have the opportunity to  
21 articulate to postsecondary education and training programs.

22           (3) (~~Within funds specifically appropriated therefor,~~) A middle  
23 school that receives approval from the office of the superintendent of  
24 public instruction to provide a career and technical program in  
25 science, technology, engineering, or mathematics directly to students  
26 shall receive funding at the same rate as a high school operating a  
27 similar program. Additionally, a middle school that provides a hands-  
28 on experience in (~~math and~~) science, technology, engineering, or  
29 mathematics with an integrated curriculum of academic content and  
30 career and technical education, and includes a career and technical  
31 education exploratory component shall also qualify for the career and  
32 technical education funding.

33           NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.660  
34 RCW to read as follows:

35           The professional educator standards board shall develop and  
36 implement alternative pathways to endorsement for individuals to become  
37 certified to teach career and technical education at the middle school

1 level in science, technology, engineering, or mathematics. The  
2 pathways shall offer endorsement to individuals who pass an appropriate  
3 content knowledge assessment for the endorsement area, recognize a  
4 minimum level of related industry experience in the endorsement area,  
5 or a combination thereof.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** Section 2 of this act takes effect September  
7 1, 2009.

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