
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2074

State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1993 Regular Session

By House Committee on Trade, Economic Development & Housing (originally sponsored by Representatives Wineberry and J. Kohl)

Read first time 03/03/93.

1 AN ACT Relating to youth employment placement and services; adding
2 new sections to chapter 50.40 RCW; creating a new section; and making
3 an appropriation.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the escalating
6 incidence of gang violence, drug trafficking, chronic unemployment, and
7 nongang-related criminal activity by persons under twenty-one years of
8 age affects the public health, safety, and welfare of Washington state.
9 Present career opportunities for at-risk youth exist primarily in
10 service and retail businesses, which typically are low wage and offer
11 limited incentives to at-risk youth who are attracted to the money
12 available through the street culture lifestyle. The drug-related
13 activity and perceived potential for high income is viewed by many at-
14 risk youth as an equalizer to social inequities that are real or
15 imagined. The purpose of this act is to establish a pilot project to
16 develop innovative ways to steer at-risks toward rewarding and secure
17 career opportunities.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 50.40 RCW
2 to read as follows:

3 (1) The career initiative pilot project is established in the
4 employment security department. The project shall provide career
5 opportunities within present state agencies to at-risk youth who have
6 received a high school diploma or GED. The department shall contract
7 with a local nonprofit corporation in the Puget Sound region to
8 identify and select trainees to participate in the project, and shall
9 provide support services to ensure the applicants meet job-preparedness
10 standards. The department shall identify trainee positions at state
11 agencies for the applicants to fill as provided in section 3 of this
12 act. The trainees shall be trained and employed at the worksite of the
13 employing state agency. The trainee is subject to all performance
14 standards regularly in effect for that position. The nonprofit
15 corporation shall provide case managers to work with the trainees,
16 providing ongoing career counseling and support services. The period
17 of employment under this pilot program is twelve months, unless
18 employment is terminated by the state agency for cause or the trainee
19 resigns. The agency and the nonprofit organization shall complete an
20 evaluation of the trainee on their respective experiences with the
21 trainee. The agency may continue to employ the trainee as a regular
22 employee apart from the pilot program after the trainee has
23 successfully completed the twelve months required under the pilot
24 project. If the agency does not hire the trainee as a full-time
25 employee after completion of the training period, the department and
26 the nonprofit organization shall make efforts to place the trainee in
27 suitable employment.

28 (2) The department shall report to the senate trade, technology and
29 economic development committee and the house of representatives trade,
30 economic development and housing committee regarding this program each
31 December.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 50.40 RCW
33 to read as follows:

34 The following state agencies, as coordinated by the employment
35 security department, shall identify forty-eight trainee positions for
36 the pilot project established in section 2 of this act:

37 (1) Department of agriculture;

38 (2) Department of fisheries;

- 1 (3) Department of ecology;
- 2 (4) Department of corrections;
- 3 (5) Department of licensing;
- 4 (6) Department of social and health services;
- 5 (7) Department of transportation;
- 6 (8) Washington state convention and trade center; and
- 7 (9) Washington state patrol.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The sum of two hundred ninety-two thousand
9 dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for
10 the biennium ending June 30, 1995, from the general fund to the
11 employment security department for the purposes of this act.

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