

2 **SSB 6379** - H COMM AMD **ADOPTED 2/6/96**

3 By Committee on Higher Education

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5 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
6 following:

7 "Sec. 1. RCW 28C.18.005 and 1991 c 238 s 1 are each amended to
8 read as follows:

9 The legislature finds that the state's system of work force
10 training and education is inadequate for meeting the needs of the
11 state's workers, employers, and economy. A growing shortage of skilled
12 workers is already hurting the state's economy. There is a shortage of
13 available workers and too often prospective employees lack the skills
14 and training needed by employers. Moreover, with demographic changes
15 in the state's population employers will need to employ a more
16 culturally diverse work force in the future.

17 The legislature further finds that the state's current work force
18 training and education system is fragmented among numerous agencies,
19 councils, boards, and committees, with inadequate overall coordination.
20 No comprehensive strategic plan guides the different parts of the
21 system. There is no single point of leadership and responsibility.
22 There is insufficient guidance from employers and workers built into
23 the system to ensure that the system is responsive to the needs of its
24 customers. Adult work force education lacks a uniform system of
25 governance, with an inefficient division in governance between
26 community colleges and vocational technical institutes, and inadequate
27 local authority. The parts of the system providing adult basic skills
28 and literacy education are especially uncoordinated and lack sufficient
29 visibility to adequately address the needs of the large number of
30 adults in the state who are functionally illiterate. The work force
31 training and education system's data and evaluation methods are
32 inconsistent and unable to provide adequate information for determining
33 how well the system is performing on a regular basis so that the system
34 may be held accountable for the outcomes it produces. Much of the work
35 force training and education system provides inadequate opportunities

1 to meet the needs of people from culturally diverse backgrounds.
2 Finally, our public and private educational institutions are not
3 producing the number of people educated in vocational/technical skills
4 needed by employers.

5 The legislature recognizes that we must make certain that our
6 public and private institutions of education place appropriate emphasis
7 on the needs of employers and on the needs of the approximately eighty
8 percent of our young people who enter the world of work without
9 completing a four-year program of higher education. We must make our
10 work force education and training system better coordinated, more
11 efficient, more responsive to the needs of business and workers and
12 local communities, more accountable for its performance, and more open
13 to the needs of a culturally diverse population.

14 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28C.18.010 and 1991 c 238 s 2 are each amended to read
15 as follows:

16 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in
17 this section apply throughout this title.

18 (1) "Board" means the work force training and education
19 coordinating board.

20 (2) "Director" means the director of the work force training and
21 education coordinating board.

22 (3) "Training system" means programs and courses of secondary
23 vocational education, technical college programs and courses, community
24 college vocational programs and courses, private career school and
25 college programs and courses, employer-sponsored training, adult basic
26 education programs and courses, programs and courses funded by the job
27 training partnership act, programs and courses funded by the federal
28 vocational act, programs and courses funded under the federal adult
29 education act, publicly funded programs and courses for adult literacy
30 education, and apprenticeships, and programs and courses offered by
31 private and public nonprofit organizations that are representative of
32 communities or significant segments of communities and provide job
33 training or adult literacy services.

34 (4) "Work force skills" means skills developed through applied
35 learning that strengthen and reinforce an individual's academic
36 knowledge, critical thinking, problem solving, and work ethic and,
37 thereby, develop the employability, occupational skills, and management
38 of home and work responsibilities necessary for economic independence.

1 (5) "Vocational education" means organized educational programs
2 offering a sequence of courses which are directly related to the
3 preparation or retraining of individuals in paid or unpaid employment
4 in current or emerging occupations requiring other than a baccalaureate
5 or advanced degree. Such programs shall include competency-based
6 applied learning which contributes to an individual's academic
7 knowledge, higher-order reasoning, and problem-solving skills, work
8 attitudes, general employability skills, and the occupational-specific
9 skills necessary for economic independence as a productive and
10 contributing member of society. Such term also includes applied
11 technology education.

12 (6) "Adult basic education" means instruction designed to achieve
13 mastery of skills in reading, writing, oral communication, and
14 computation at a level sufficient to allow the individual to function
15 effectively as a parent, worker, and citizen in the United States,
16 commensurate with that individual's actual ability level, and includes
17 English as a second language and preparation and testing service for
18 the general education development exam.

19 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28C.18.030 and 1991 c 238 s 4 are each amended to read
20 as follows:

21 The purpose of the board is to provide planning, coordination,
22 evaluation, monitoring, and policy analysis for the state training
23 system as a whole, and advice to the governor and legislature
24 concerning the state training system, in cooperation with ((the
25 agencies which comprise)) the state training system((7)) and the higher
26 education coordinating board.

27 **Sec. 4.** RCW 28C.18.060 and 1993 c 280 s 17 are each amended to
28 read as follows:

29 The board, in cooperation with the operating agencies of the state
30 training system and private career schools and colleges shall:

31 (1) Concentrate its major efforts on planning, coordination
32 evaluation, policy analysis, and recommending improvements to the
33 state's training system.

34 (2) Advocate for the state training system and for meeting the
35 needs of employers and the work force for work force education and
36 training.

1 (3) Establish and maintain an inventory of the programs of the
2 state training system, and related state programs, and perform a
3 biennial assessment of the vocational education, training, and adult
4 basic education and literacy needs of the state; identify ongoing and
5 strategic education needs; and assess the extent to which employment,
6 training, vocational and basic education, rehabilitation services, and
7 public assistance services represent a consistent, integrated approach
8 to meet such needs.

9 (4) Develop and maintain a state comprehensive plan for work force
10 training and education, including but not limited to, goals,
11 objectives, and priorities for the state training system, and review
12 the state training system for consistency with the state comprehensive
13 plan. In developing the state comprehensive plan for work force
14 training and education, the board shall use, but shall not be limited
15 to: Economic, labor market, and populations trends reports in office
16 of financial management forecasts; joint office of financial management
17 and employment security department labor force, industry employment,
18 and occupational forecasts; the results of scientifically based
19 outcome, net-impact and cost-benefit evaluations; the needs of
20 employers as evidenced in formal employer surveys and other employer
21 input; and the needs of program participants and workers as evidenced
22 in formal surveys and other input from program participants and the
23 labor community.

24 (5) In consultation with the higher education coordinating board,
25 review and make recommendations to the office of financial management
26 and the legislature on operating and capital facilities budget requests
27 for operating agencies of the state training system for purposes of
28 consistency with the state comprehensive plan for work force training
29 and education.

30 (6) Provide for coordination among the different operating agencies
31 and components of the state training system at the state level and at
32 the regional level.

33 (7) Develop a consistent and reliable data base on vocational
34 education enrollments, costs, program activities, and job placements
35 from publicly funded vocational education programs in this state.

36 (8) Establish standards for data collection and maintenance for the
37 operating agencies of the state training system in a format that is
38 accessible to use by the board. The board shall require a minimum of

1 common core data to be collected by each operating agency of the state
2 training system.

3 The board shall develop requirements for minimum common core data
4 in consultation with the office of financial management and the
5 operating agencies of the training system.

6 (9) Establish minimum standards for program evaluation for the
7 operating agencies of the state training system, including, but not
8 limited to, the use of common survey instruments and procedures for
9 measuring perceptions of program participants and employers of program
10 participants, and monitor such program evaluation.

11 (10) Every two years administer scientifically based outcome
12 evaluations of the state training system, including, but not limited
13 to, surveys of program participants, surveys of employers of program
14 participants, and matches with employment security department payroll
15 and wage files. Every five years administer scientifically based net-
16 impact and cost-benefit evaluations of the state training system.

17 (11) In cooperation with the employment security department,
18 provide for the improvement and maintenance of quality and utility in
19 occupational information and forecasts for use in training system
20 planning and evaluation. Improvements shall include, but not be
21 limited to, development of state-based occupational change factors
22 involving input by employers and employees, and delineation of skill
23 and training requirements by education level associated with current
24 and forecasted occupations.

25 (12) Provide for the development of common course description
26 formats, common reporting requirements, and common definitions for
27 operating agencies of the training system.

28 (13) Provide for effectiveness and efficiency reviews of the state
29 training system.

30 (14) In cooperation with the higher education coordinating board,
31 facilitate transfer of credit policies and agreements between
32 institutions of the state training system, and encourage articulation
33 agreements for programs encompassing two years of secondary work force
34 education and two years of postsecondary work force education.

35 (15) In cooperation with the higher education coordinating board,
36 facilitate transfer of credit policies and agreements between private
37 training institutions and institutions of the state training system.

38 (16) Participate in the development of coordination criteria for
39 activities under the job training partnership act with related programs

1 and services provided by state and local education and training
2 agencies.

3 (17) Make recommendations to the commission of student assessment,
4 the state board of education, and the superintendent of public
5 instruction, concerning basic skill competencies and essential core
6 competencies for K-12 education. Basic skills for this purpose shall
7 be reading, writing, computation, speaking, and critical thinking,
8 essential core competencies for this purpose shall be English, math,
9 science/technology, history, geography, and critical thinking. The
10 board shall monitor the development of and provide advice concerning
11 secondary curriculum which integrates vocational and academic
12 education.

13 (18) Establish and administer programs for marketing and outreach
14 to businesses and potential program participants.

15 (19) Facilitate the location of support services, including but not
16 limited to, child care, financial aid, career counseling, and job
17 placement services, for students and trainees at institutions in the
18 state training system, and advocate for support services for trainees
19 and students in the state training system.

20 (20) Facilitate private sector assistance for the state training
21 system, including but not limited to: Financial assistance, rotation
22 of private and public personnel, and vocational counseling.

23 (21) Facilitate programs for school-to-work transition that combine
24 classroom education and on-the-job training in industries and
25 occupations without a significant number of apprenticeship programs.

26 (22) Encourage and assess progress for the equitable representation
27 of racial and ethnic minorities, women, and people with disabilities
28 among the students, teachers, and administrators of the state training
29 system. Equitable, for this purpose, shall mean substantially
30 proportional to their percentage of the state population in the
31 geographic area served. This function of the board shall in no way
32 lessen more stringent state or federal requirements for representation
33 of racial and ethnic minorities, women, and people with disabilities.

34 (23) Participate in the planning and policy development of governor
35 set-aside grants under P.L. 97-300, as amended.

36 (24) Administer veterans' programs, licensure of private vocational
37 schools, the job skills program, and the Washington award for
38 vocational excellence.

39 (25) Allocate funding from the state job training trust fund.

1 (26) Work with the director of community, trade, and economic
2 development to ensure coordination between work force training
3 priorities and that department's economic development efforts.

4 (27) Adopt rules as necessary to implement this chapter.

5 The board may delegate to the director any of the functions of this
6 section."

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10 On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "board;" strike the remainder
11 of the title and insert "and amending RCW 28C.18.005, 28C.18.010,
12 28C.18.030, and 28C.18.060."

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