

---

HOUSE BILL 2682

---

State of Washington

56th Legislature

2000 Regular Session

By Representatives Kenney, Carlson, Dunn, Skinner, Radcliff, McIntire, Edmonds, Stensen, Veloria, Dickerson, Kessler, Ruderman, Santos, Lovick, Kagi, Lantz, Edwards, Anderson, O'Brien, Constantine, Regala, Keiser, Rockefeller, Miloscia, Ogden, Esser and Woods

Read first time 01/20/2000. Referred to Committee on Children & Family Services.

1 AN ACT Relating to higher education opportunities for certain young  
2 people enrolled in assistance programs; amending RCW 74.08A.250; and  
3 creating new sections.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the best path to  
6 leave welfare and achieve long-term economic self-sufficiency is  
7 postsecondary education. Recent studies demonstrate that without some  
8 postsecondary education, most women who leave welfare for work will  
9 earn wages far below the federal poverty line for several years  
10 thereafter. In addition, only twenty-two percent of new jobs created  
11 through 2006 will be available to women who have only completed high  
12 school. Furthermore, the national economy is expected to create fewer  
13 low-skill jobs than there will be welfare recipients entering the work  
14 force. Some postsecondary education is required in order to qualify  
15 for more of the new jobs created. The legislature also finds that  
16 young teen parents, who lack postsecondary education, are more likely  
17 to return and remain on welfare longer than those with postsecondary  
18 education.

1       **Sec. 2.** RCW 74.08A.250 and 1997 c 58 s 311 are each amended to  
2 read as follows:

3       Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, as used in this  
4 chapter, "work activity" means:

5       (1) Unsubsidized paid employment in the private or public sector;

6       (2) Subsidized paid employment in the private or public sector;

7       (3) Work experience, including work associated with the  
8 refurbishing of publicly assisted housing, if sufficient paid  
9 employment is not available;

10       (4) On-the-job training;

11       (5) Job search and job readiness assistance;

12       (6) Community service programs;

13       (7) Vocational educational training, not to exceed twelve months  
14 with respect to any individual except those individuals meeting the  
15 requirements of subsection (11) of this section;

16       (8) Job skills training directly related to employment;

17       (9) Education directly related to employment, in the case of a  
18 recipient who has not received a high school diploma or a GED;

19       (10) Satisfactory attendance at secondary school or in a course of  
20 study leading to a GED, in the case of a recipient who has not  
21 completed secondary school or received such a certificate;

22       (11) Satisfactory maintenance of a full credit load in a vocational  
23 or two-year community college program providing job-specific education  
24 or training in a high demand field, and the individual is within the  
25 ages of eighteen and twenty-one years;

26       (12) The provision of child care services to an individual who is  
27 participating in a community service program; and

28       (~~(12)~~) (13) Services required by the recipient under RCW  
29 74.08.025(3) and 74.08A.010(3) to become employable.

30       NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** If any part of this act is found to be in  
31 conflict with federal requirements that are a prescribed condition to  
32 the allocation of federal funds to the state, the conflicting part of  
33 this act is inoperative solely to the extent of the conflict and with  
34 respect to the agencies directly affected, and this finding does not  
35 affect the operation of the remainder of this act in its application to  
36 the agencies concerned. Rules adopted under this act must meet federal

1 requirements that are a necessary condition to the receipt of federal  
2 funds by the state.

--- END ---