
SENATE BILL 5589

State of Washington

56th Legislature

1999 Regular Session

By Senators Fairley and Kohl-Welles

Read first time . Referred to Committee on .

1 AN ACT Relating to creating an apprenticeship assistance program;
2 adding new sections to chapter 49.04 RCW; and making appropriations.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 49.04 RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 The legislature finds that apprenticeship programs offer
7 individuals valuable training in high-skilled occupations and prepare
8 people for family wage jobs. The legislature further finds that many
9 industries in the state are experiencing a shortage of skilled labor,
10 shortages they are attempting to meet through apprenticeship programs,
11 but that entry into apprenticeship programs is difficult for low-income
12 individuals because of enrollment fees, tool expenses, and other costs
13 associated with training and transportation. The legislature intends
14 to assist low-income individuals, particularly recipients of temporary
15 assistance for needy families, by establishing a program to cover costs
16 associated with entering high-demand apprenticeship programs.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 49.04 RCW
18 to read as follows:

1 There is created in the department of labor and industries an
2 apprenticeship assistance program. The program shall be administered
3 by the supervisor of apprenticeship. In administering the program the
4 supervisor shall:

5 (1) Award grants to low-income individuals who have been accepted
6 into an apprenticeship program approved by the apprenticeship council
7 or the federal bureau of apprenticeship and training. The grants may
8 be used to cover enrollment fees, purchase of necessary tools and
9 training materials, and transportation and child-care costs;

10 (2) Encourage entry by low-income individuals into apprenticeship
11 programs in industries experiencing shortages of skilled labor;

12 (3) Ensure that the awarding of grants results in a net increase in
13 the number of low-income individuals and in temporary assistance for
14 needy families recipients entering apprenticeship programs;

15 (4) Adopt necessary rules and guidelines; and

16 (5) Solicit and accept grants and donations from public and private
17 sources for the program.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 49.04 RCW
19 to read as follows:

20 The department of social and health services shall:

21 (1) Work with the supervisor of apprenticeship to encourage
22 recipients of temporary assistance for needy families to enter
23 apprenticeships and apply for assistance from the program established
24 under section 2 of this act; and

25 (2) Ensure that no department rule prevents recipients of temporary
26 assistance for needy families from entering apprenticeships or
27 receiving assistance from the program established under section 2 of
28 this act.

29 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The sum of five hundred thousand dollars, or
30 as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated from the general
31 fund to the department of labor and industries for the fiscal year
32 ending June 30, 2000, to carry out the purposes of this act. The sum
33 of five hundred thousand dollars, or as much thereof as may be
34 necessary, is appropriated from the general fund to the department of

1 labor and industries for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2001, to carry
2 out the purposes of this act.

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