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**ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL 3094**

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**State of Washington**

**58th Legislature**

**2004 Regular Session**

**By** Representatives Ormsby, Cox, Haigh, Kagi, Priest, McCoy, Fromhold, Condotta, Chase, Upthegrove, Schual-Berke, Kenney and Morrell

Read first time 01/27/2004. Referred to Committee on Education.

1       AN ACT Relating to studying the expansion of high school skills  
2 centers; and creating new sections.

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

4       NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that local skills  
5 centers provide excellent opportunities for high school students to  
6 receive job training as part of the public educational system at no  
7 cost to the student. The legislature further finds that students learn  
8 the technical knowledge and skills to either gain advanced placement in  
9 apprenticeships, technical schools, two-year and four-year colleges and  
10 universities, or go directly to entry-level employment in a vocation.  
11 The legislature recognizes that these centers are extremely valuable  
12 tools for preparing students for future careers and supporting local  
13 businesses and economic development. The legislature finds that  
14 expansion of skills centers will benefit students, businesses, and  
15 local communities.

16       NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The joint legislative audit and review  
17 committee shall conduct a study of the vocational skills centers in  
18 Washington's public K-12 educational system. The review shall include:

1 (a) An update on the success of skills centers in assisting high  
2 school students prepare for future jobs, including the utilization of  
3 centers, the types of progress offered in the centers, and the  
4 placement of students;

5 (b) An analysis of the annual fiscal resources available for these  
6 skills centers, including a breakdown of federal, state, local, and  
7 private funding;

8 (c) A description and analysis of any conflicts between the  
9 resource requirements of these skills centers and those of the school  
10 districts that are part of the consortium supporting the skills  
11 centers; and

12 (d) A description and analysis of those factors that both encourage  
13 and discourage student enrollments in the skills centers from  
14 participating school districts.

15 (2) At a minimum, the committee shall consult with local high  
16 school skills center consortia, the superintendent of public  
17 instruction, the state board for community and technical colleges, the  
18 work force training and education coordinating board, the state  
19 apprenticeship and training council, and the center for career and  
20 technical education.

21 (3) In conducting this study, the committee may select a sample of  
22 skills centers that reflect regional differences within the state. A  
23 report shall be submitted to the appropriate policy and fiscal  
24 committees of the legislature by March 15, 2005.

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