## (AS OF HOUSE 2ND READING 2/09/06)

Finds that classified school employees are an integral part of the K-12 school system of services and supports to our students. The public school system would not function without the significant contributions of these employees.

Declares that classified school employees also play a major role in developing supportive and caring relationships with our students of all ages. The legislature believes the contribution of classified school employees can and should be enhanced to help all of our students succeed in meeting state learning standards.

Declares that the legislature has reviewed a number of previous funding studies and conducted its own review of our state's funding of public schools. Now the governor is in the process of studying school funding under chapter 496, Laws of 2005 (Washington Learns).

Directs that the funding review by the Washington Learns steering committee include a thorough review of funding for classified school employees and that the Washington Learns steering committee report findings and recommendations that include recommendations on how classified school employees can enhance our students' abilities to meet state learning standards.