

# SENATE BILL REPORT

## SB 6261

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As Amended by House, March 4, 2008

**Title:** An act relating to adult youth programs.

**Brief Description:** Requiring the workforce training and education coordinating board to research and evaluate work and learning programs for adult youth.

**Sponsors:** Senators Kilmer, Rockefeller, Schoesler, Shin, Fraser and Rasmussen.

**Brief History:**

**Committee Activity:** Higher Education: 1/21/08 [DP].

Passed Senate: 2/11/08, 47-0.

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### SENATE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

**Majority Report:** Do pass.

Signed by Senators Shin, Chair; Kilmer, Vice Chair; Delvin, Ranking Minority Member; Berkey, Schoesler and Sheldon.

**Staff:** Aldo Melchiori (786-7439)

**Background:** The Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board (WTECB) is a tripartite partnership of business, labor, and government with 11 members. The WTECB advises the Governor on workforce development policy, ensures that the state's workforce preparation services and programs work together, and evaluates performance. The Board also advocates for the nonbaccalaureate training and education needs of the workers who account for about 75 percent of Washington State's workforce.

**Summary of Bill:** In cooperation with the operating agencies of the state training system and private career schools and colleges, the WTECB conducts research into and evaluates programs and training systems designed to provide comprehensive work and learning programs for adult youth between the ages of 18 and 24 years of age.

The research must include student demographic data, to the extent possible, and must also include a comparison of the effectiveness of the programs to the public investment. The agencies with which the WTECB must work are no longer specified. The WTECB reports to the Legislature by November 15, 2008, and every two years thereafter.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Available.

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*This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.*

**Committee/Commission/Task Force Created:** No.

**Effective Date:** Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

**Staff Summary of Public Testimony:** PRO: The adult youth population faces unique challenges in obtaining an education and these need to be addressed. By studying systems being designed and used in other places, we will be able to take advantage of their experiences.

OTHER: This cohort has the lowest employment rate at the present time. They are typically lumped in with adults, but they have unique educational needs that require further study.

**Persons Testifying:** PRO: Senator Kilmer, prime sponsor; Amber Carter, Association of Washington Business.

OTHER: Eleni Papadakis, WTECB.