

SSB 5555 - S AMD 3  
By Senator Kilmer

ADOPTED 02/20/2009

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the  
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** Lifelong learning accounts are portable  
4 employee-owned and employer-matched savings accounts dedicated to  
5 covering the cost of tuition, fees, books, supplies, and equipment for  
6 working adults seeking education and training to improve their position  
7 in the workforce. The legislature finds that lifelong learning  
8 accounts allow employers and workers to coinvest in their futures. The  
9 legislature further finds that, combined with free career advising,  
10 lifelong learning accounts can make a significant difference in the  
11 lives of workers and their families, as well as for employers in need  
12 of well-trained workers. The legislature intends to facilitate the  
13 creating of lifelong learning accounts for workers in the state of  
14 Washington.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28C.18 RCW  
16 to read as follows:

17 (1) The board shall establish a state lifelong learning account  
18 steering committee. The steering committee shall consist of  
19 representatives from: (a) The association of Washington business; (b)  
20 the higher education coordinating board; (c) the state board for  
21 community and technical colleges; (d) the department of community,  
22 trade, and economic development; (e) the Washington state hospital  
23 association; (f) the Northwest career colleges federation; (g) the  
24 Pacific mountain workforce development council; (h) the state and  
25 regional AFL-CIO and SEIU; and (i) other business and labor  
26 representatives.

27 (2) The steering committee shall: (a) Develop a policy framework  
28 to establish a statewide lifelong learning account program; (b)  
29 identify technical and budget issues along with recommendations on how

1 to resolve them; (c) study methods for continuing outreach to workers,  
2 employers, and foundations, willing to participate in and fund lifelong  
3 learning accounts; (d) explore career advising options including online  
4 tools; and (e) design a performance accountability system.

5 (3) The steering committee shall receive staff and logistical  
6 support from the board.

7 (4) The steering committee shall report to the appropriate  
8 committees of the legislature by September 1, 2010, and every two years  
9 thereafter, regarding the numbers and characteristics of participating  
10 workers and employers, the status of outreach efforts, and other  
11 appropriate performance outcome measures identified by the steering  
12 committee.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 28C.18 RCW  
14 to read as follows:

15 The board may solicit, accept, receive, and administer federal  
16 funds or private funds, in trust or otherwise, and contract with  
17 foundations or with for-profit or nonprofit organizations to support  
18 the establishment of the state lifelong learning account program."

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19 On page 1, beginning on line 1 of the title, after "accounts;"  
20 strike the remainder of the title and insert "adding new sections to  
21 chapter 28C.18 RCW; and creating a new section."

EFFECT: The higher education coordinating board is no longer  
required to develop the financial infrastructure for the program. This  
eliminates the fiscal impact of the bill.

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