Washington State House of Representatives Office of Program Research

BILL ANALYSIS

Education Committee

HB 1710

Brief Description: Creating a strategic plan for career and technical education.

Sponsors: Representatives Moscoso, Liias, Probst, Ladenburg, Hasegawa, McCoy, Haler, Dahlquist, Green, Wilcox, McCune, Zeiger, Roberts, Stanford, Billig, Maxwell, Hunt and Kenney.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Directs the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction to convene a working group to develop a statewide strategic plan for secondary career and technical education.
- Specifies issues to be examined in developing the plan.
- Requires a progress report by December 1, 2011 and the final plan by December 1, 2012.

Hearing Date: 2/11/11

Staff: Barbara McLain (786-7383).

Background:

In 2008 a comprehensive set of initiatives was enacted in legislation, designed to enhance the rigor and relevance of secondary career and technical education (CTE) programs and to align and integrate CTE instruction more closely with academic subjects, high demand fields, industry certification, and postsecondary education.

The Legislature initially provided \$2,750,000 per year to support such activities as:

- requiring all preparatory CTE programs to lead to industry certification or offer dual high school and college credit;
- expanding state support for middle school CTE programs, especially in science, technology, and engineering;

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- providing support for schools to develop or upgrade programs in high demand fields and offer pre-apprenticeships;
- developing model CTE programs of study leading to industry credentials or degrees;
- assisting school districts with identifying academic and CTE course equivalencies;
- pilot-testing programs to integrate academic, career and technical, basic skills, and English as a second language instruction; and
- developing performance measures and targets for accountability.

Summary of Bill:

The Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction must convene a working group to develop a statewide strategic plan for secondary CTE.

The plan must include a vision statement, goals, and measurable annual objectives for continuous improvement. The plan must also recommend activities that:

- can be accomplished within current resources;
- should receive top priority for additional investment; and
- could be phased-in over the next ten years.

The working group must examine at least the following issues:

- proposed changes to high school graduation requirements and ways to assure that students continue to have opportunities to pursue CTE pathways;
- the relationship between CTE courses and the Common Core Standards;
- ways to improve access to high quality CTE in a variety of school settings; and
- a framework for transferrable and articulated certifications between secondary and postsecondary CTE so that students receive credit for knowledge and skills already mastered.

Membership of the working group is specified, including two legislators who are also members of the Quality Education Council.

A progress report is due to the Education Committees and the Quality Education Council by December 1, 2011, with a final strategic plan due December 1, 2012.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.