

FINAL BILL REPORT

SB 5584

C 308 L 11
Synopsis as Enacted

Brief Description: Concerning the conforming of apprenticeship program standards to federal labor standards.

Sponsors: Senators Harper, Kohl-Welles and Kline; by request of Department of Labor & Industries.

Senate Committee on Labor, Commerce & Consumer Protection
House Committee on Labor & Workforce Development

Background: The Washington State Apprenticeship and Training Council (WSATC) is a seven member board that establishes apprenticeship program standards as rules and approves apprenticeship training programs. The Department of Labor and Industries (L&I) works with the WSATC to oversee and administer the apprenticeship program.

The Secretary of the United States Department of Labor delegates to the state authority to certify apprenticeship programs for federal purposes. Apprentices that complete certified programs are recognized as qualified journey workers nationwide. The Secretary delegates authority only if state apprenticeship law conforms with federal apprenticeship regulations. Changes in federal regulations in December of 2008 require that a state apprenticeship agency, and not a state apprenticeship council, have responsibility and accountability for apprenticeship within the state. States must be in compliance with these changes by December 29, 2010.

Summary: L&I is the agency with responsibility and accountability for apprenticeship within the state for federal purposes. L&I has rulemaking authority for apprenticeships but must consult with the WSATC prior to adopting rules. Any decision of the WSATC affecting registration and oversight of apprenticeship programs and agreements may be appealed to L&I within 30 days.

Votes on Final Passage:

Senate	49	0
House	56	39

Effective: July 22, 2011.

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.