
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5754

State of Washington

63rd Legislature

2013 Regular Session

By Senate Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Senators Litzow, McAuliffe, Kohl-Welles, Conway, and Kline; by request of Governor Inslee)

READ FIRST TIME 03/01/13.

1 AN ACT Relating to integrated career learning opportunities and
2 employment training for at-risk youth; adding a new section to chapter
3 28C.18 RCW; and creating new sections.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** Data provided by the office of the
6 superintendent of public instruction for the 2010-11 school year
7 indicated twenty-five percent of the state's high school students did
8 not graduate on time. The Washington state institute for public policy
9 estimates, based on 2010 data and dollars, that a high school dropout
10 will lose two hundred twenty-eight thousand dollars in lifetime
11 earnings. The federal bureau of labor statistics reported that in
12 2012, Washington residents between the ages of sixteen and nineteen had
13 an unemployment rate of twenty-eight percent, and that during the same
14 period, males of that age experienced an unemployment rate of thirty-
15 three percent.

16 Research on effective dropout prevention and reengagement practices
17 highlight linking educational programs to career readiness and
18 improving the transition between school and careers. The legislature
19 intends to improve outcomes for youth and young adults, specifically

1 those at risk of not completing high school or those who have already
2 dropped out of high school, through additional strategies integrating
3 education with skills training and work experience.

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

6 (1) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this
7 section.

8 (a) "ASSET program" means the alliance for student success in
9 education and training program.

10 (b) "Institutions of higher education" or "postsecondary
11 institutions" has the definition in RCW 28B.10.016.

12 (c) "Public schools" has the definition in RCW 28A.150.010.

13 (d) "State education and workforce agencies" means the office of
14 the superintendent of public instruction, the state board of education,
15 the state board for community and technical colleges, the student
16 achievement council, the Washington state school directors'
17 association, the workforce training and education coordinating board,
18 and the employment security department.

19 (e) "STEM" means science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

20 (f) "Youth" means a person age twenty-four or younger.

21 (2) Subject to funds appropriated for this purpose, the ASSET
22 program is established to increase connections and access to work-
23 integrated learning opportunities, particularly in STEM fields. The
24 program is also intended to encourage the development of forums in
25 local communities through increased public-private partnerships for the
26 exchange of ideas, innovations, and expertise among local businesses,
27 local business organizations, labor organizations, public schools,
28 apprenticeship councils, and institutions of higher education. The
29 board shall administer the program.

30 (3) In administering the ASSET program, the board may receive and
31 expend federal funds and private gifts or grants, which funds must be
32 expended in accordance with any conditions upon which the funds are
33 contingent. The board, in collaboration with business and labor
34 organizations as well as state education and workforce agencies, shall:

35 (a) Develop technical assistance materials to guide employers in
36 the design and implementation of work-integrated learning opportunities
37 and programs;

1 (b) Develop technical assistance materials to guide schools in the
2 design and implementation of work-integrated learning opportunities and
3 programs that assist schools in encouraging students to explore and
4 select work-integrated opportunities that maximize their educational
5 experience;

6 (c) Develop a web-based matching and communications system,
7 accessible to schools, service providers, and individual students, for
8 employers to post work-integrated learning opportunities. The system
9 must also provide access to the technical assistance materials for
10 employers, schools, and students developed under this section; and

11 (d) Designate up to eight workforce development councils as pilot
12 regional coordinators for the ASSET program through a competitive
13 matching grant application process. The purpose of the designation is
14 to establish a single point of contact for voluntary local
15 coordination, reduce duplication of effort, achieve economies of scale,
16 and create opportunities for successful grant seeking and leveraging of
17 private and public resources.

18 (4) Pilot regional program coordinators must, in collaboration with
19 state education and workforce agencies:

20 (a) Serve as a clearinghouse for summer and year-round youth
21 employment and other work-integrated learning opportunities for
22 students in the region;

23 (b) In collaboration with business and labor organizations,
24 actively recruit employers to provide work-integrated learning
25 opportunities, particularly in STEM fields, for youth and participating
26 schools;

27 (c) In collaboration with business and labor organizations,
28 leverage resources to implement and sustain the ASSET program in the
29 targeted community;

30 (d) Disseminate technical assistance materials developed under
31 subsection (3)(a) of this section to interested employers;

32 (e) Work with public schools, institutions of higher education,
33 apprenticeship and preapprenticeship programs, and workforce training
34 programs to develop internship, mentoring, and advising opportunities
35 for public school students by individuals in the local business and
36 labor communities;

37 (f) Encourage the use of the web-based matching and communications

1 system for work-integrated learning opportunities developed under
2 subsection (3)(c) of this section; and

3 (g) Report annually to the board data required to complete
4 subsection (5) of this section.

5 (5) The board, in consultation with the office of the
6 superintendent of public instruction, shall design and implement a
7 performance monitoring system to track the outcomes of the ASSET
8 program. As of December 2015, the board shall submit an annual
9 performance report on the program to the appropriate committees of the
10 legislature and the governor.

11 (6) For the purposes of this section, "work-integrated learning
12 opportunities" include but are not limited to:

13 (a) Paid and unpaid internships that provide sustained work and
14 learning experiences;

15 (b) Paid and unpaid work experience;

16 (c) Youth apprenticeships and preapprenticeships;

17 (d) Advising from employers and workers related to student projects
18 or programs of study;

19 (e) Simulated or virtual workplace experiences and enterprises;

20 (f) Visits to worksites to learn about employers, occupations, job
21 skills, or other work-related issues;

22 (g) Mentoring that provides professional input to a student's
23 career pathway; and

24 (h) Job shadowing related to a student's career pathway.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** If specific funding for the purposes of this
26 act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not provided by
27 June 30, 2013, in the omnibus appropriations act, this act is null and
28 void.

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