

HCR 4415 - H COMM AMD

By Committee on Higher Education

1 Beginning on page 1, on line 1, strike all material through
2 "education." on page 3, line 13 and insert the following:

3 "WHEREAS, Chapter 238, Laws of 1991 created the Workforce
4 Training and Education Coordinating Board (Workforce Board) to
5 provide planning, coordinating, evaluation, and policy analysis for
6 the state training system as a whole and to provide advice to the
7 Governor and the Legislature concerning the training system in
8 cooperation with the agencies that comprise the state training system
9 and the Washington Student Achievement Council; and

10 WHEREAS, The Workforce Board is a unique partnership of business,
11 labor, education, and training organizations dedicated to creating a
12 highly skilled workforce that meets the needs of Washington
13 businesses and workers; and

14 WHEREAS, The state faces the workforce challenges of: (1) Not
15 enough workers with the education and training to fill key openings,
16 hampering the ability of Washington's businesses to remain
17 competitive in an increasingly global economy, and (2) a workforce
18 that is growing older and increasingly diverse, bringing with it
19 falling workforce participation rates and lower education and skill
20 attainment among many target populations that are needed to fill new
21 job openings; and

22 WHEREAS, RCW 28C.18.080 requires the Workforce Board to update
23 the state comprehensive plan for workforce training and education
24 every four years, and the plan was last updated in 2012; and

25 WHEREAS, Students, workers, and employers have wide ranging
26 education and training needs; and

27 WHEREAS, By viewing the workforce system as a series of
28 interconnected pathways, with multiple options for workers,
29 jobseekers, and students to advance, the Workforce Board is able to
30 outline strategies to strengthen these pathways so more Washington
31 residents become economically self-sufficient, while also helping
32 Washington businesses find the skilled workers they depend on; and

1 WHEREAS, The purpose of the 2016 state comprehensive plan for
2 training and education is to provide direction to the workforce
3 development system; and

4 WHEREAS, To meet the challenges of the next ten years workforce
5 partners must work together as a seamless, customer-focused system;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, This edition of the state comprehensive plan for
8 workforce development represents the first time the Workforce Board
9 will also submit a combined plan for workforce development to the
10 federal Departments of Labor and Education, in accordance with the
11 requirements of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
12 of 2014; and

13 WHEREAS, The Workforce Board coordinated an inclusive process of
14 work groups and public forums to reach agreement on the strategies
15 identified in the 2016 state strategic plan for workforce
16 development, under the leadership of the Workforce Board's labor and
17 business representatives; and

18 WHEREAS, The strategies identified in the 2016 state strategic
19 plan for workforce development represent the consensus of critical
20 constituencies across the workforce system, including business,
21 labor, and the agencies delivering workforce services; and

22 WHEREAS, The 2016 state comprehensive plan, titled *Talent and*
23 *Prosperity for All*, emphasizes the following four strategic
24 priorities:

25 (1) Achieving a more welcoming, streamlined customer experience
26 in the workforce system by blending and braiding the delivery of
27 services more effectively;

28 (2) Strengthening the breadth and quality of the workforce
29 system's engagement with the business community, emphasizing sector
30 strategies and a focus on in-demand industries;

31 (3) Ensuring a workforce system that is universally accessible
32 for all customers, leveraging technology and other tools to identify
33 and remove barriers to access; and

34 (4) Refining Washington's performance accountability system to
35 inform a process of continual, data-driven improvement; and

36 WHEREAS, The provisions of the comprehensive plan and updates
37 approved by the Legislature become the state's workforce policy
38 unless legislation is enacted to alter the policies set forth
39 therein;

1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives
2 of the State of Washington, the Senate concurring, hereby approve the
3 2016 state comprehensive plan for workforce training and education."

EFFECT: Makes a technical correction to reflect that this is a House resolution with the Senate concurring.

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