
HOUSE BILL 1303

State of Washington 52nd Legislature 1991 Regular Session

By Representatives Rasmussen, Brumsickle, Peery, Rayburn, Fraser, Nealey, McLean, Dorn, Bowman, Roland, Tate, Moyer, Inslee, Sheldon, Betrozoff, Chandler, Cooper, Spanel, Orr, Vance, P. Johnson, Hargrove, Jones, R. Johnson, Riley, Paris and Edmondson.

Read first time January 25, 1991. Referred to Committee on Education\Appropriations.

1 AN ACT Relating to technological and vocational agricultural
2 education; amending RCW 28A.300.080 and 28B.80.350; adding new sections
3 to chapter 28A.300 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 28B.10 RCW;
4 adding a new chapter to Title 28A RCW; and making appropriations.

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

6 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.300.080 and 1983 1st ex.s. c 34 s 1 are each
7 amended to read as follows:

8 The legislature recognizes that agriculture is the most basic and
9 singularly important industry in the state, that agriculture is of
10 central importance to the welfare and economic stability of the state,
11 and that the maintenance of this vital industry requires a continued
12 source of trained and qualified individuals who qualify for employment
13 in agriculture and (~~agribusiness~~) related business fields. The
14 legislature declares that it is within the best interests of the people
15 and state of Washington that a comprehensive vocational education

1 program in agriculture be maintained in the state's secondary school
2 system.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** In meeting the responsibilities of RCW
4 28A.300.080, the vocational agriculture education service area shall
5 encourage greater student and teacher knowledge of environmentally
6 sensitive and benign agricultural and landscaping practices, water
7 conservation, and agricultural worker protections.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) The superintendent of public
9 instruction may grant funds to school districts for vocational
10 educational materials and instruction in one or more of the following
11 areas:

12 (a) Benign and sustaining agricultural natural resource management
13 systems and practices that protect human health and environmental
14 resources;

15 (b) Organic farming practices and certification standards as
16 defined by chapter 15.86 RCW;

17 (c) Water conservation practices and techniques;

18 (d) Xeriscaping and drought-resistant landscaping;

19 (e) Employee safety standards and practices for the handling of
20 agricultural equipment and materials; and

21 (f) Environmental challenges, including air and water quality.

22 (2) Interested school districts shall file an application for funds
23 that includes a description of the educational component, including
24 student leadership and supervised agricultural experience, and how it
25 meets one or more of the objectives in subsection (1) of this section.

26 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The superintendent of public instruction,
27 in consultation with Washington State University's college of

1 agriculture and home economics and vocational agriculture instructors,
2 shall develop and administer a vocational agriculture education
3 institute to provide in-service training programs for vocational
4 agriculture instructors around the state. In-service training programs
5 shall be designed to provide teacher training and knowledge on the
6 changing agriculture industry and shall include, but not be limited to,
7 training courses in the latest technological advances in occupational
8 equipment and techniques, international agricultural trade issues,
9 environmental education, and other issues necessary to ensure
10 instructors are current with agricultural trends. The institute shall
11 seek out guidance and assistance from industry, trade groups, and
12 environmental organizations.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** The superintendent of public instruction
14 shall develop and implement an in-service training program designed to
15 provide vocational agriculture education instructors with training in
16 teaching at-risk students, disadvantaged students, developmentally
17 disabled students, and students from different cultures. The in-
18 service training program shall identify and enhance the unique features
19 of vocational agriculture education that are effective in dropout
20 prevention.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** The superintendent of public instruction
22 shall adopt rules that establish general program approval standards for
23 determining the terms and conditions under which school districts are
24 eligible to receive state funds for secondary vocational agricultural
25 education. The standards shall include a provision regarding the use
26 of extended learning experiences for certificated vocational
27 agriculture education instructors for students in vocational

1 agricultural education and provide assistance to districts in
2 determining when to offer such experiences.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** Commencing with the 1991-92 school year,
4 the formula adopted by the legislature pursuant to RCW 28A.150.260
5 shall include a ratio of ninety-two one-hundredths certificated
6 instructional staff and eight one-hundredths certificated
7 administrative staff to sixteen and sixty-seven one-hundredths annual
8 average full-time equivalent students in grades nine through twelve
9 enrolled in vocational agriculture education programs approved by the
10 superintendent of public instruction: PROVIDED, That any increase in
11 funds generated by the change in the ratio of certificated personnel to
12 annual average full-time equivalent vocational agriculture students
13 shall be used by local school districts to provide additional state
14 support for their vocational agriculture education programs, including
15 extended learning experiences for instructors, commencing with the
16 1991-92 school year.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** (1) Each school district, skills center,
18 educational service district, interdistrict cooperative, or public
19 vocational technical institute receiving state funds for vocational
20 agricultural programs shall consult with a local advisory council on
21 vocational agricultural education. The district may create a council
22 or may use an existing entity that meets the requirements of this
23 section and sections 9 and 10 of this act. Joint councils may be
24 established.

25 (2) The councils shall be composed of members who are
26 representative of the population found in the area that the council
27 serves. The council shall be composed of representatives of the

1 general public including at a minimum representatives of business,
2 industry, labor, and spokespersons for persons with disabilities.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** The local advisory council shall provide
4 advice and assistance to the school district, skills center,
5 educational service district, interdistrict cooperative, or public
6 vocational technical institute on:

7 (1) Selecting equipment and instructional materials and
8 establishing specifications for training areas. The council shall
9 suggest ways to provide for the efficient and effective use of
10 equipment and insure maximum use of the equipment;

11 (2) Determining training needs;

12 (3) Determining content and length of courses;

13 (4) Determining current and future employment opportunities and
14 requirements;

15 (5) Making recommendations to help provide for experienced and
16 knowledgeable instructors; and

17 (6) Providing support for the entire vocational education program.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 10.** A school district shall only be
19 eligible to receive funds to upgrade or to acquire equipment for
20 vocational agricultural education programs if the district in
21 consultation with the local advisory council has developed a vocational
22 agricultural education program improvement component within their plan.
23 The improvement component shall describe: Methods for strengthening
24 vocational education; business and industry partnerships; the potential
25 to aid local economic development; staff training; the need for
26 extended or supplemental contracts for specific certificated
27 instructional staff in vocational programs; job placement; consistency
28 with the state plan for vocational education; and the basic skills and

1 core competencies required for successful employment. In developing
2 the plan, coordination with community colleges, business and industry,
3 and other school districts, educational service districts,
4 interdistrict cooperatives, skills centers, and public vocational
5 technical institutes shall be considered. The plan shall be revised at
6 least once every two years.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 11.** The entity in the state of Washington
8 qualifying as the entity for the receipt of federal funds shall, with
9 available funds, provide technical assistance to local vocational
10 agricultural education advisory committees.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 12.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.10
12 RCW to read as follows:

13 In developing admission standards, each four-year institution of
14 higher education shall recognize the relevance of vocational
15 agriculture education courses and the competencies taught in such
16 courses and shall make every effort to designate applicable vocational
17 agriculture education courses as course equivalencies.

18 **Sec. 13.** RCW 28B.80.350 and 1988 c 172 s 4 are each amended to
19 read as follows:

20 The board shall coordinate educational activities among all
21 segments of higher education taking into account the educational
22 programs, facilities, and other resources of both public and
23 independent two and four-year colleges and universities. The four-year
24 institutions and the state board for community college education shall
25 coordinate information and activities with the board. The board shall
26 have the following additional responsibilities:

27 (1) Promote interinstitutional cooperation;

1 (2) Establish minimum admission standards for four-year
2 institutions, including a requirement that coursework in sign language
3 shall satisfy any foreign language requirement the board or the
4 institutions may establish as a general undergraduate admissions
5 requirement. The standards shall include recognition of the relevance
6 of vocational agriculture education courses and the competencies taught
7 in such courses and the use of vocational agriculture education courses
8 having academic equivalencies to meet admission requirements to four-
9 year institutions;

10 (3) Establish transfer policies;

11 (4) Adopt rules implementing statutory residency requirements;

12 (5) Develop and administer reciprocity agreements with bordering
13 states and the province of British Columbia;

14 (6) Review and recommend compensation practices and levels for
15 administrative employees, exempt under chapter 28B.16 RCW, and faculty
16 using comparative data from peer institutions;

17 (7) Monitor higher education activities for compliance with all
18 relevant state policies for higher education;

19 (8) Arbitrate disputes between and among four-year institutions or
20 between and among four-year institutions and community colleges at the
21 request of one or more of the institutions involved, or at the request
22 of the governor, or from a resolution adopted by the legislature. The
23 decision of the board shall be binding on the participants in the
24 dispute;

25 (9) Establish and implement a state system for collecting,
26 analyzing, and distributing information;

27 (10) Recommend to the governor and the legislature ways to remove
28 any economic incentives to use off-campus program funds for on-campus
29 activities; and

1 (11) Make recommendations to increase minority participation, and
2 monitor and report on the progress of minority participation in higher
3 education.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 14.** Sections 2 through 7 of this act are
5 each added to chapter 28A.300 RCW.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 15.** Sections 8 through 11 of this act shall
7 constitute a new chapter in Title 28A RCW.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 16.** The sum of five hundred thousand
9 dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for
10 the biennium ending June 30, 1993, from the general fund to the
11 superintendent of public instruction for the purposes of section 3 of
12 this act.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 17.** The sum of one hundred thousand
14 dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for
15 the biennium ending June 30, 1993, from the general fund to the
16 superintendent of public instruction for the purposes of section 4 of
17 this act.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 18.** The sum of one million nine hundred
19 thousand dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is
20 appropriated for the biennium ending June 30, 1993, from the general
21 fund to the superintendent of public instruction for the purposes of
22 section 6 of this act.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 19.** The sum of five hundred thousand
24 dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for

1 the biennium ending June 30, 1993, from the general fund to the
2 superintendent of public instruction for the purposes of section 10 of
3 this act.