
HOUSE BILL 2697

State of Washington

54th Legislature

1996 Regular Session

By Representative Schoesler

Read first time 01/16/96. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to vocational student leadership organizations;
2 adding a new section to chapter 28A.300 RCW; and creating a new
3 section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature recognizes the benefit of
6 vocational student leadership organizations in preparing students for
7 work force experiences beyond high school. Through the efforts of
8 these organizations students receive opportunities to develop
9 leadership and vocational skills that may not otherwise be attained
10 through classroom activities.

11 The unique opportunities created by these organizations assist
12 students in the development of important interpersonal and
13 communication skills necessary for the critical thinking, problem
14 solving, and decision-making responsibilities of daily work force
15 activities. The emphasis of these skills as essential to successful
16 participation in our work force focuses student attention to the
17 applicability of education and training to gainful employment.

18 These organizations are successful in promoting and connecting
19 student learning to work force application while maintaining emphasis

1 on individual student performance and personal development.
2 Participating students develop high performance standards and work
3 ethics through exposure to varied work environments, interactions with
4 community and business leaders, and increased knowledge of employer
5 expectations of performance. These interactions assist students in
6 determining short and long-term employment goals and confirm the
7 importance of education as a key to successful participation in our
8 work force.

9 These organizations also provide valuable opportunities for
10 communities, businesses, and families to become actively involved with
11 local schools. Their involvement creates direct interactions between
12 students and community leaders that increase the student's sense of
13 community responsibility, the importance of individual involvement in
14 community activities and work force efforts, and provide students with
15 important role models in their own communities. Through this exposure
16 students become positive role models and effective leaders within our
17 schools, accentuating emphasis on the value of work and high standards
18 for achievement.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.300
20 RCW to read as follows:

21 The legislature recognizes the necessity of maintaining and
22 promoting vocational student leadership organizations as an integral
23 component of vocational technical education programs. The office of
24 the superintendent of public instruction shall maintain support for the
25 state-wide coordination of these organizations and shall recognize the
26 appropriateness of their role in making meaningful connections between
27 vocational and academic education. Whereas the funding for these
28 programs has traditionally been provided through federal
29 appropriations, should those resources be reduced or eliminated, the
30 state shall support the continuation of these organizations to promote
31 the integration of vocational and academic learning, develop student
32 leadership, and enhance citizenship responsibilities.

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