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**SENATE BILL 5992**

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**State of Washington**

**54th Legislature**

**1995 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Bauer, Pelz, Wood, Prince, Kohl, Deccio, Heavey and Rasmussen

Read first time 02/21/95. Referred to Committee on Labor, Commerce & Trade.

1 AN ACT Relating to the work force training and education  
2 coordinating board; amending RCW 28C.18.050; adding new sections to  
3 chapter 28C.18 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature continues to recognize the  
6 vital role that work force development efforts play in equipping the  
7 state's workers with the skills they need to succeed in an economy that  
8 requires higher levels of skill and knowledge. The legislature also  
9 recognizes that businesses are increasingly relying on the state's work  
10 force development programs and expect them to be responsive to their  
11 changing skill requirements. The state benefits from a work force  
12 development system that allows firms and workers to be highly  
13 competitive in global markets.

14 The establishment of the work force training and education  
15 coordinating board was an integral step in developing a strategic  
16 approach to work force development. For the coordinating board to  
17 carry out its intended role, the board must be able to give unambiguous  
18 guidance to operating agencies, the governor, and the legislature. It  
19 is the intent of this act to clarify the preeminent role intended for

1 the work force training and education coordinating board in  
2 coordination and policy development of the state's work force  
3 development efforts.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The state comprehensive plan for work  
5 force training and education shall be updated every two years and  
6 presented to the governor and the appropriate legislative policy  
7 committees. Following public hearings, the legislature shall, by  
8 concurrent resolution, approve or recommend changes to the initial plan  
9 and the updates. The plan shall then become the state's work force  
10 training policy unless legislation is enacted to alter the policies set  
11 forth in the plan.

12 (2) The comprehensive plan shall include work force training role  
13 and mission statements for the work force development programs of  
14 operating agencies represented on the board and sufficient specificity  
15 regarding expected actions by the operating agencies to allow them to  
16 comply with the requirements of subsection (3) of this section.

17 (3) Operating agencies represented on the board shall develop  
18 operating plans for their work force development efforts that comply  
19 with the comprehensive plan and that provide detail on implementation  
20 steps they will take to carry out their responsibilities under the  
21 plan. Each operating agency represented on the board shall report  
22 yearly to the board on its progress in meeting its obligations under  
23 the plan.

24 (4) The comprehensive plan shall include recommendations to the  
25 legislature and the governor on the modification, consolidation,  
26 initiation, or elimination of work force training and education  
27 programs in the state.

28 (5) The board shall report to the appropriate legislative policy  
29 committees by December 1 of each year on its progress in implementing  
30 the comprehensive plan and on the progress of the operating agencies in  
31 meeting their obligations under the plan.

32 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28C.18.050 and 1991 c 238 s 6 are each amended to read  
33 as follows:

34 (1) The board shall be designated as the state board of vocational  
35 education as provided for in P.L. 98-524, as amended, and shall perform  
36 such functions as is necessary to comply with federal directives  
37 pertaining to the provisions of such law.

1       (2) The board shall perform the functions of the human resource  
2 investment council as provided for in the federal job training  
3 partnership act, P.L. 97-300, as amended.

4       (3) The board shall administer policy planning for any federal act  
5 pertaining to work force development that is not required by state or  
6 federal law to be administered by another state agency.

7       (4) Upon enactment of new federal initiatives relating to work  
8 force development, the board shall advise the governor and the  
9 legislature on mechanisms for integrating the federal initiatives into  
10 the state's work force development system and make recommendations on  
11 the legislative or administrative measures necessary to streamline and  
12 coordinate state efforts to meet federal guidelines.

13       (5) The board shall monitor for consistency with the state  
14 comprehensive plan for work force training and education the policies  
15 and plans established by the state job training coordinating council,  
16 the advisory council on adult education, and the Washington state plan  
17 for adult basic education, and provide guidance for making such  
18 policies and plans consistent with the state comprehensive plan for  
19 work force training and education.

20       NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. (1) The board shall specify, by July 1,  
21 1995, the common core data to be collected by the operating agencies of  
22 the state training system and the standards for data collection and  
23 maintenance required in RCW 28C.18.060(8).

24       (2) The minimum standards for program evaluation by operating  
25 agencies required in RCW 28C.18.060(9) shall include biennial program  
26 evaluations; the first of such evaluations shall be completed by the  
27 operating agencies July 1, 1996.

28       (3) The board shall complete, by January 1, 1996, its first  
29 outcome-based evaluation and, by September 1, 1996, its net-impact and  
30 cost-benefit evaluations of the training system. The outcome, net-  
31 impact, and cost-benefit evaluations shall include evaluations of each  
32 federally or state-mandated training program of the operating agencies  
33 represented on the board, as well as of the system as a whole.

34       (4) The board shall use the results of its outcome, net-impact, and  
35 cost-benefit evaluations to develop and make recommendations to the  
36 legislature and the governor for the modification, consolidation,  
37 initiation, or elimination of work force training and education  
38 programs in the state.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 5.**    The board shall, by January 1, 1996, and  
2 biennially thereafter: (1) Assess the total demand for training from  
3 the perspective of workers, and from the perspective of employers; (2)  
4 assess the available supply of publicly and privately provided training  
5 which workers and employers are demanding; (3) assess the costs to the  
6 state of meeting the demand; and (4) present the legislature and the  
7 governor with a strategy for bridging the gap between the supply and  
8 the demand for training services.

9        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 6.**    The board shall, by January 1, 1996:

10        (1) Identify policies to reduce administrative and other barriers  
11 to efficient operation of the state's work force development system and  
12 barriers to improved coordination of work force development in the  
13 state. These policies shall include waivers of statutory requirements  
14 and administrative rules, as well as implementation of one-stop access  
15 to work force development services and school-to-work transition;

16        (2) Identify ways for operating agencies to share resources,  
17 instructors, and curricula through collaboration with other public and  
18 private entities to increase training opportunities and reduce costs;  
19 and

20        (3) Report to the governor and the appropriate legislative  
21 committees its recommendations for any statutory changes necessary to  
22 enhance operational efficiencies or improve coordination. The board  
23 shall work with the operating agencies of the state's work force  
24 development system to reduce administrative barriers that do not  
25 require statutory changes.

26        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 7.**    Sections 2 and 4 through 6 of this act are  
27 each added to chapter 28C.18 RCW.

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