
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5940

State of Washington

57th Legislature

2001 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Education (originally sponsored by Senators Regala, McAuliffe, Carlson, Kohl-Welles, Eide, Kastama, Rasmussen and Finkbeiner; by request of Superintendent of Public Instruction)

READ FIRST TIME 02/28/01.

1 AN ACT Relating to career and technical education; adding a new
2 section to chapter 28C.04 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that Washington
5 requires strong career and technical education programs to meet the
6 academic and career preparation needs of secondary students. The
7 legislature further finds that career and technical education programs,
8 including the vocational skills centers, provide:

9 (a) Support for achievement of the certificate of mastery,
10 particularly by students requiring applied learning opportunities for
11 academic success;

12 (b) Opportunities for secondary students to certify competency in
13 the entry-level skills of current occupations;

14 (c) Support for special needs students to fulfill the occupational
15 preparation required for self-sufficiency in adult life;

16 (d) Increases in the number of students who complete high school;
17 and

18 (e) Assistance with students' transitions from secondary schools to
19 postsecondary education, training, and employment.

1 (2) In order to provide students with a variety of learning
2 experiences that will assist them in achieving the higher standards of
3 education reform, school districts currently offering career and
4 technical education programs shall continue to provide career and
5 technical education programs and school districts not offering career
6 and technical education programs are encouraged to begin providing such
7 programs.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28C.04 RCW
9 to read as follows:

10 (1) To ensure high quality career and technical programs, the
11 office of the superintendent of public instruction shall review and
12 approve the plans of local districts for the delivery of career and
13 technical education. Standards for career and technical programs shall
14 be established by the office of the superintendent of public
15 instruction. These standards should:

16 (a) Demonstrate how career and technical education programs will
17 ensure academic rigor; align with the state's education reform
18 requirements; ensure preparation for industry-defined skill standards
19 or certifications, or both; help address the skills gap of Washington's
20 economy; and maintain strong industry connections for the design and
21 delivery of career and technical education;

22 (b) Demonstrate how secondary career and technical education
23 programs will align with the work force development councils of
24 Washington state, particularly regarding (i) the provision of services
25 out-of-school; (ii) the retention of at-risk youth; and (iii)
26 connection to and use of the labor market information system of the
27 work source system; and

28 (c) Demonstrate a strategy to align the five-year planning
29 requirement under the federal Carl Perkins act with the state and
30 district vocational program planning requirements that include:

31 (i) An assessment of equipment and technology needs to support the
32 skills training of technical students;

33 (ii) An assessment of industry internships required for teachers to
34 ensure the ability to prepare students for industry-defined standards
35 or certifications, or both;

36 (iii) An assessment of the costs of supporting job shadows,
37 mentors, community service and industry internships, and other
38 activities for student learning in the community. A formula for the

1 calculation of the full-time equivalent value of these activities shall
2 be included in the new program standards; and

3 (iv) A description of the leadership activities to be provided for
4 technical education students.

5 (2) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall
6 recommend a system of funding the implementation of the standards in
7 this section, including regular equipment and technology investments.

8 (3) To ensure high quality career education programs and services
9 in secondary schools, the office of the superintendent of public
10 instruction may provide technical assistance to local districts and
11 develop state guidelines for the delivery of career guidance in
12 secondary schools.

13 (4) To ensure leadership development, the staff of the office of
14 the superintendent of public instruction may serve as the state
15 advisors to Washington state FFA, Washington future business leaders of
16 America, Washington DECA, Washington SkillsUSA-VICA, Washington family,
17 career and community leaders, and Washington technology students
18 association, and any additional career or technical student
19 organizations that are formed. Working with the directors or executive
20 secretaries of these organizations, the office of the superintendent of
21 public instruction may develop tools for the coordination of leadership
22 activities with the curriculum of technical education programs.

23 (5) As used in this section, "career and technical education" means
24 planned programs of courses and learning experiences that begin with
25 exploration of career options, support the achievement of the state's
26 academic standards, promote leadership development, and offer specific
27 preparation in industry-defined skills and for advanced and continuing
28 education.

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