
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 8404

State of Washington

57th Legislature

2001 Regular Session

By Senators Kohl-Welles, Prentice, Winsley, Carlson, Horn, McAuliffe and Franklin

Read first time 01/11/2001. Referred to Committee on Higher Education.

1 WHEREAS, Chapter 238, Laws of 1991 created the work force training
2 and education coordinating board to provide planning, coordination,
3 evaluation, monitoring, and policy analysis for the state training
4 system as a whole, and advice to the governor and legislature
5 concerning the training system, in cooperation with the agencies that
6 comprise the state training system and the higher education
7 coordinating board; and

8 WHEREAS, Section 2, Chapter 130, Laws of 1995 requires the board to
9 update the state comprehensive plan for work force training and
10 education every two years and requires the legislature, following
11 public hearings, to approve or make changes to the updates; and

12 WHEREAS, The work force training and education coordinating board
13 was directed to prepare a state unified plan as described under the
14 workforce investment act of 1998 (P.L.105-220) that encompasses the
15 comprehensive plan described in Chapter 238, Laws of 1991; and

16 WHEREAS, The provisions of the comprehensive plan and its updates
17 that are approved by the legislature become the state's work force
18 training policy unless legislation is enacted to alter the policies set
19 forth therein; and

20 WHEREAS, The state faces the work force challenges of: (1) Closing
21 the gap between the need of employers for skilled workers and the

1 supply of Washington residents prepared to meet that need; (2) enabling
2 workers to make smooth transitions so they may fully benefit from the
3 new, changing economy; and (3) assisting disadvantaged youth, persons
4 with disabilities, new labor market entrants, recent immigrants, and
5 low-wage workers in moving up the job ladder during their lifetimes by
6 developing a wage progression strategy for low-income workers; and

7 WHEREAS, The 2000 unified plan adopted by the work force training
8 and education coordinating board includes the update to the state
9 comprehensive plan required under Chapter 238, Laws of 1991; and

10 WHEREAS, The state comprehensive plan includes: (1) Assessments of
11 our state's employment opportunities and skills needs, the present and
12 future work force, and the current work force development system; (2)
13 goals and strategies for meeting the work force challenges; and (3) a
14 description of the performance management system for work force
15 development;

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the Senate of the State of
17 Washington, the House of Representatives concurring, That the members
18 of the work force training and education coordinating board be
19 commended for their dedication and commitment to the state of
20 Washington in working together with business, labor, local work force
21 development councils, and state operating agencies with input from
22 practitioners and customers to produce Washington's state 2000 unified
23 plan for work force development, including the update of the state
24 comprehensive plan for work force training and education; and

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Legislature hereby officially
26 expresses its gratitude to the board for detailing the current
27 challenges facing the state in achieving a vision of a work force
28 development system that offers every Washingtonian access to high
29 quality academic and occupational skills education throughout his or
30 her lifetime, effective help to find work or training when unemployed,
31 and the personalized assistance to make progress in the labor market;
32 and

33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Legislature hereby adopts the
34 following goals in the 2000 update to the state comprehensive plan:
35 (1) To close the gap between the need of the employers for skilled
36 workers and the supply of Washington residents prepared to meet that
37 need; (2) to enable workers to make smooth transitions so that they,
38 and their employers, may fully benefit from the new, changing economy,
39 by putting in place a coherent strategy for dislocated and incumbent

1 worker training; and (3) to assist disadvantaged youth, persons with
2 disabilities, new labor market entrants, recent immigrants, and low-
3 wage workers in moving up the job ladder during their lifetimes by
4 developing a wage progression strategy for low-income workers.
5 Specific progress will be made in improving operating agencies and
6 reducing the earnings gap facing people of color, adults with
7 disabilities, and women; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Legislature hereby endorses the
9 specific objectives and strategies for partners in the work force
10 development system to meet the goals.

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