

HOUSE BILL REPORT

HCR 4402

As Reported by House Committee On:
Higher Education

Brief Description: Approving the 2016 state comprehensive plan for workforce training and education.

Sponsors: Representatives Sells, Haler, Pollet, Senn, Condotta, Stambaugh, Kilduff, Dolan, Bergquist, Stonier, Muri, Tarleton, Gregerson, Ormsby and Ortiz-Self; by request of Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board.

Brief History:

Committee Activity:

Higher Education: 1/31/17, 2/8/17 [DP].

Brief Summary of Bill

- Approves the most recent state comprehensive plan for workforce training submitted by the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

Majority Report: Do pass. Signed by 9 members: Representatives Hansen, Chair; Pollet, Vice Chair; Holy, Ranking Minority Member; Van Werven, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; Haler, Orwall, Sells, Stambaugh and Tarleton.

Staff: Trudes Tango (786-7384).

Background:

The Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board (Workforce Board) provides planning, coordination, evaluation, monitoring, and policy analysis for the state workforce training system as a whole, and advises the Governor and the Legislature regarding the workforce training system.

Every four years, the Workforce Board must provide the Governor and the Legislature with an update of the state comprehensive plan. The Legislature, after public hearings, must approve or recommend changes to the plan and the updates by way of a concurrent

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resolution. Once approved, the plan becomes the state's workforce training policy unless legislation is enacted to alter the policies set forth in the plan.

The most recently updated plan is called "Talent and Prosperity for All" and emphasizes four priorities: (1) improving customer experience in the workforce system; (2) strengthening engagement with the business community; (3) leveraging technology; and (4) refining performance accountability.

Summary of Bill:

The House of Representatives and the Senate, by way of concurrent resolution, approve the state comprehensive plan for workforce training and education.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Staff Summary of Public Testimony:

(In support) This resolution is the same as the one the House of Representatives passed last year that died in the Senate. Hundreds of people participate in the process of creating the strategic plan, and it takes over two years. The Workforce Board held public forums throughout the state when developing the plan. The plan aligns well with the educational attainment goals outlined by the Student Achievement Council.

(Opposed) None.

Persons Testifying: Representative Sells, prime sponsor; Nora Gattman, Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board; and Maddy Thompson, Washington Student Achievement Council.

Persons Signed In To Testify But Not Testifying: None.