

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6544

65th Legislature
2018 Regular Session

Passed by the Senate February 9, 2018
Yeas 36 Nays 11

President of the Senate

Passed by the House March 2, 2018
Yeas 50 Nays 48

Speaker of the House of Representatives

Approved

Governor of the State of Washington

CERTIFICATE

I, Brad Hendrickson, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6544** as passed by Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

Secretary

FILED

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6544

Passed Legislature - 2018 Regular Session

State of Washington

65th Legislature

2018 Regular Session

By Senate Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Senators Chase, Brown, Hasegawa, Wagoner, Wellman, Takko, and Conway)

READ FIRST TIME 02/06/18.

1 AN ACT Relating to establishing the future of work task force;
2 adding a new chapter to Title 28C RCW; creating new sections; and
3 providing expiration dates.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that automation,
6 artificial intelligence, access to new forms of data, and the
7 internet of things are driving mass transformation of all sectors and
8 almost all occupations. Researchers predict anywhere from thirty to
9 forty-seven percent of jobs will be replaced by robots by 2030.

10 The legislature further finds that the United States has already
11 lost millions of jobs to automation. In manufacturing alone, since
12 2000, robots have taken over four million four hundred thousand jobs.
13 By comparison, six hundred thousand manufacturing jobs were lost due
14 to foreign competition.

15 Blue collar and technical workers have been hit hardest and are
16 the least likely to find employment with similar or higher wage
17 levels. On the employer side, small and midsized suppliers lose their
18 competitive advantage when larger businesses bring automated
19 processes in-house.

20 Finally, the legislature recognizes that in rural and suburban
21 regions, small and midsized businesses are critical to the local

1 economy. When these businesses close, they are unlikely to be
2 replaced quickly by enterprises that can absorb dislocated workers
3 and middle class wages.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The future of work task force is
5 established to:

6 (a) Inventory and periodically assess trends and factors that are
7 current or potential drivers of transformation of industries and work
8 in Washington;

9 (b) Identify policies and practices that will help Washington's
10 businesses, workers, and communities thrive economically, while
11 responding to rapid changes in technology, workplace practices,
12 environmental and security issues, and global interdependence;

13 (c) Recommend mechanisms and structures for sustainable industry
14 sector partnerships through which employers and workers can
15 collaborate to support their sector's growth in Washington; and

16 (d) Create a policy framework that supports a talent development
17 pipeline and lifelong learning structure that:

18 (i) Prepares Washington's young people to navigate careers and
19 workplaces of the future;

20 (ii) Helps workers keep their skills up-to-date or retrain for
21 new careers when needed;

22 (iii) Enables attainment of credentials that are portable,
23 transferable, and cost and time efficient;

24 (iv) Provides opportunities for instructional staff to keep pace
25 with changes in their disciplines and related occupations; and

26 (v) Allows for collaborative applied research between businesses,
27 instructional staff, and students to learn concurrently about new
28 technology and assist companies with adoption.

29 (2) The task force must consist of:

30 (a) Two members from the house of representatives, with one
31 member appointed from each of the two major caucuses of the house of
32 representatives by the speaker of the house of representatives and
33 the minority leader of the house of representatives;

34 (b) Two members from the senate, with one member appointed from
35 each of the two major caucuses of the senate by the majority leader
36 and minority leader of the senate; and

37 (c) Six business and six labor representatives appointed by the
38 workforce training and education coordinating board.

1 (3) The workforce training and education coordinating board may
2 contract with research advisors from various disciplines in order to
3 carry out the duties of the task force.

4 (4) The task force may meet as appropriate, but not more than
5 four times a year, either in person or by any means of communication
6 by which all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other
7 during the meeting.

8 (5) This section expires June 30, 2020.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** Subject to the availability of amounts
10 appropriated for this specific purpose, the workforce training and
11 education coordinating board must perform the following duties under
12 the direction of the future of work task force:

13 (1) Develop and maintain an inventory of the current and future
14 trends and factors that drive transformation of industries and work
15 in Washington over the next twenty-five years;

16 (2) Research best and promising practices from state, national,
17 and international sources, and develop case examples;

18 (3) Gather input from employers and workers from the major
19 industrial sectors of Washington, via surveys and community forums,
20 ensuring that every region of the state is consulted;

21 (4) Identify relevant metrics and recommend a possible dashboard
22 for tracking the state's success, addressing future of work issues,
23 including analysis of what data sets are readily available and what
24 new data might need to be collected and by whom;

25 (5) Consult with public and not-for-profit organizations that
26 support businesses or their workforce to identify policy or
27 structural barriers that hinder the ability of not-for-profit
28 organizations to effectively support business and workforce
29 development in a transformational environment;

30 (6) Make an initial set of recommendations and a research design
31 report describing the plan and methods to be used by the task force
32 by December 31, 2018; and

33 (7) Make a report to the appropriate committees of the
34 legislature and the governor on task force activities and
35 recommendations by December 1, 2019. The report must include a
36 recommendation of research and activities the future of work task
37 force would complete if the task force were to continue.

38 (8) This section expires June 30, 2020.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** If specific funding for the purposes of
2 this act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not
3 provided by June 30, 2018, in the omnibus appropriations act, this
4 act is null and void.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Sections 2 and 3 of this act constitute a
6 new chapter in Title 28C RCW.

--- END ---