
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6527

State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1994 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Trade, Technology & Economic Development
(originally sponsored by Senators Sheldon, Erwin, Skratek, M.
Rasmussen, Oke and Franklin)

Read first time 02/04/94.

1 AN ACT Relating to job placement and training for youth; amending
2 RCW 28A.190.030 and 28A.190.040; adding new sections to chapter 43.330
3 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 13.06 RCW; creating a new section;
4 and making appropriations.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that the state's
7 economy increasingly depends upon a well-educated work force with
8 skills beyond basic academic skills. The legislature also finds that
9 the projection of a shortage of skilled workers in the state implies we
10 must invest in the capacity of all citizens to be productive members of
11 society. In addition, the legislature finds that at-risk youth are
12 less likely than other youth to have developed skills that make them
13 desirable employees, and they are also less likely to have employment
14 and job training opportunities. The legislature further finds that
15 young people with a quality education, marketable skills, and a path to
16 family wage employment are far less likely to become involved in
17 violence and crime. Public and private efforts to help at-risk young
18 people acquire marketable skills, work experience, educational
19 assistance, and other assistance toward family wage careers can be an

1 important part of efforts to reduce youth violence. The legislature
2 further finds that the provision of occupational skills, employment
3 experience, and job placement assistance to juvenile offenders is of
4 particular value in reducing the recidivism rate of such offenders and
5 reducing the potential for violent behavior by such offenders upon
6 return to their communities.

7 (2) It is the intent of the legislature to strengthen the economy
8 and to expand opportunities for at-risk youth by creating job placement
9 and training projects at the community level. It is also the intent of
10 the legislature that the educational and training needs of all juvenile
11 offenders in state institutions and group homes be met in a manner that
12 allows the youth to obtain gainful employment upon release. It is the
13 purpose of this act to enhance the career options and job readiness of
14 at-risk youth and incarcerated youth. It is the further purpose of
15 sections 2 through 9 of this act to encourage community-based efforts
16 to reduce youth violence.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The department shall develop and
18 administer an at-risk youth job placement and training program. The
19 program shall provide grants to local groups to:

20 (a) Identify and recruit at-risk youth for local job opportunities;
21 (b) Provide skills and needs assessments for each youth recruited;
22 (c) Provide career and occupational counseling to each youth
23 recruited;

24 (d) Identify businesses willing to provide employment and training
25 opportunities for at-risk youth; and

26 (e) Match each youth recruited with a business that meets his or
27 her skills and training needs.

28 (2) The director shall form a selection panel that shall assist in
29 the development of the grant application and shall select successful
30 applicants. The panel shall be composed of representatives from
31 business, labor, local communities, youth organizations, the work force
32 training and education coordinating board, the office of the
33 superintendent of public instruction, the employment security
34 department, and the department of community, trade, and economic
35 development.

36 (3) To be eligible to receive grants under this program, an
37 applicant group shall be, or have a sponsoring fiscal agent that is:

1 (a) A nonprofit organization registered with the secretary of
2 state;

3 (b) An educational or training institution;

4 (c) A local business or industry association;

5 (d) A labor union;

6 (e) A local government; or

7 (f) A private industry council.

8 (4) Additional consideration shall be given to applicant groups
9 that demonstrate:

10 (a) The collaboration of business, labor, education and training,
11 community organizations, and local government in the job placement and
12 training project;

13 (b) The commitment of local resources to match the grant from the
14 state; and

15 (c) That the employment and training opportunities being developed
16 for at-risk youth through the project prepare the individual for demand
17 occupations.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The department shall develop and operate an
19 at-risk youth prevention and intervention program. The program shall
20 provide technical and financial resources to communities, school
21 districts, and institutions that offer youth long-term positive
22 alternatives to violence, reduce the factors contributing to youth
23 violence, and establish strong ties between youth and their
24 communities. The program shall fund activities for the following
25 direct services to at-risk youth and their families:

26 (1) At least fifty percent of the funds appropriated in section
27 11(2) of this act shall be used to provide employment assistance,
28 including job development, school-to-work placement, employment
29 readiness training, basic skills, apprenticeships, job mentoring, and
30 private sector and community service employment;

31 (2) The remainder of the funds appropriated in section 11(2) of
32 this act shall be used to:

33 (a) Provide education assistance, including tutoring, mentoring,
34 drop-out prevention, interactions with role models, entrepreneurial
35 education and projects, and employment reentry assistance services;

36 (b) Provide peer-to-peer, group, and individual counseling,
37 including crisis intervention, for at-risk youth and their parents;

1 (c) Provide youth coalitions that provide opportunities to develop
2 leadership skills and gain appropriate respect, recognition, and
3 rewards for their positive contribution to their community; and

4 (d) Support parental involvement, including education and training
5 and home visits.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The department shall make the funds
7 available for purposes of section 3 of this act to community family
8 councils, community-based private nonprofit organizations, school
9 districts, educational service districts, juvenile institutions, Indian
10 tribes, private industry councils, youth organizations, and local
11 governments. The department shall consider at least the following
12 factors when selecting projects for funding:

13 (1) Whether there was an assessment made of the factors
14 contributing to the problem of youth violence in the community, which
15 assessment includes empirical evidence linking these factors to youth
16 violence, and a strategy proposed that addresses the factors
17 identified;

18 (2) Whether there was active community and youth participation,
19 including private sector business participation, in designing the
20 program and in proposed implementation of the program;

21 (3) Whether there is proposed collaboration among local community
22 entities, including private businesses, in carrying out the project;

23 (4) For employment and training components specifically, whether
24 there is collaboration with the local business community, labor
25 organizations, and training institutions;

26 (5) Whether there is local commitment of resources and effort to
27 carrying out the project in the short-term as well as a long-term
28 commitment to reducing youth violence;

29 (6) The likelihood that the project will significantly benefit
30 youth who are at-risk or will increase public safety in areas with high
31 rates of violent crime by juveniles;

32 (7) The experience or expertise of the sponsors to carry out the
33 proposed project; and

34 (8) The sponsors' plan for specifically predicting and evaluating
35 the outcomes of the project.

36 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** The department shall:

1 (1) Provide technical assistance to applicants to increase their
2 organizational capacity and to improve the likelihood of a successful
3 application and, further, provide additional technical assistance and
4 training resources to successful applicants;

5 (2) Work to involve youth in its efforts to reduce youth violence;

6 (3) Use all means possible to communicate to communities, and any
7 other interested parties, state-wide information concerning the "best
8 practices" and positive outcomes of community-based youth violence
9 prevention and intervention projects. To accomplish this, the
10 department may provide technical assistance through peers and state
11 staff, create a speakers' bureau, sponsor conferences and workshops in
12 which model programs are featured, and publish and distribute a
13 workbook of best practices;

14 (4) Establish a system to evaluate the effectiveness of projects
15 using benchmarks. The benchmarks must be observable outcomes, set in
16 advance, and measured at the end of the funding cycle for the programs.
17 By January 1, 1995, the department shall report to the governor and the
18 legislature on the system established and the outcomes achieved to
19 date.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** As components of the department's at-risk
21 youth prevention and intervention program, the department shall review
22 and evaluate existing youth employment readiness, mentorship, and
23 training programs and award year-long grants for a select number that
24 can demonstrate current success, current and prospective funding, and
25 future promise. Grants must be used specifically either to increase
26 the number of participants or to improve or expand services to existing
27 participants, or both. An existing youth employment readiness,
28 mentorship, or training program may apply for a grant by providing
29 relevant information, including, but not limited to:

30 (1) A description and verification of existing funding and
31 projected funding from existing sources;

32 (2) A detailed description of the program's history and design,
33 including an evaluative history with analysis of funding sources;

34 (3) A current list of participant youth and former participants
35 with outcome-based evaluations of failure and success of individual
36 program participants;

37 (4) A current list of participant mentors, businesses, employers,
38 or educators, as well as any former participant mentors, businesses,

1 employers, or educators and their own anecdotal and subjective
2 evaluations of the program;

3 (5) A current evaluation of the program completed by the current
4 funding sources;

5 (6) An analysis of needed additional funding complete with a
6 description of the ways it will be allocated and specific outcome
7 benchmarks that the additional funding is projected to achieve; and

8 (7) A proposed method of self-evaluation using the benchmarks,
9 which evaluation can in turn be used by the department for further
10 funding decisions.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** A new section is added to chapter 13.06 RCW
12 to read as follows:

13 (1) The director of the division of juvenile rehabilitation and the
14 several school districts within which there is located a residential
15 school shall develop and implement a job skills training program as
16 part of the division's and the districts' overall treatment and
17 educational responsibilities to juvenile offenders in all residential
18 schools. The program shall provide youth with skills necessary to
19 locate, compete for, and maintain employment in demand occupations. In
20 operating the program the director and the several school districts
21 shall:

22 (a) Assure that educational programs offered are occupationally
23 based and provide a wide range of prevocational skills necessary to
24 career development;

25 (b) Assure that vocational skills obtained in the classroom and in
26 school are transferable to the emerging labor market;

27 (c) Assure that basic skill offerings include remedial and advanced
28 skills in workplace communication, negotiation, teamwork, and problem
29 solving;

30 (d) Develop a system-wide process for evaluating all youth on the
31 basis of self-management skills, employability skills, and life skills;

32 (e) Work with the office of the superintendent of public
33 instruction to assure that credit is awarded toward high school
34 completion for documented performance gains and vocational skill
35 acquisition in addition to traditional or standard academic credit
36 awarded for completion hours;

37 (f) Work with local business organizations to provide information
38 and career awareness to youth in all facilities; and

1 (g) Provide institutional work experience opportunities and
2 programs that are coordinated with educational programs to reinforce
3 learning and application of skills.

4 (2) The director and the several school districts shall consult
5 with the employment security department, the office of the
6 superintendent of public instruction, and the work force training and
7 education coordinating board on the design, implementation,
8 coordination, and management of the program.

9 (3) The director shall ensure that all facility counselors are
10 trained in the area of youth employment skills assessment and
11 development.

12 **Sec. 8.** RCW 28A.190.030 and 1990 c 33 s 172 are each amended to
13 read as follows:

14 Each school district within which there is located a residential
15 school shall, singly or in concert with another school district
16 pursuant to RCW 28A.335.160 and 28A.225.250 or pursuant to chapter
17 39.34 RCW, conduct a program of education, including the job skills
18 training program created in section 7 of this act and related student
19 activities, for residents of the residential school. Except as
20 otherwise provided for by contract pursuant to RCW 28A.190.050, the
21 duties and authority of a school district and its employees to conduct
22 such a program shall be limited to the following:

23 (1) The employment, supervision and control of administrators,
24 teachers, specialized personnel and other persons, deemed necessary by
25 the school district for the conduct of the program of education;

26 (2) The purchase, lease or rental and provision of textbooks, maps,
27 audio-visual equipment, paper, writing instruments, physical education
28 equipment and other instructional equipment, materials and supplies,
29 deemed necessary by the school district for the conduct of the program
30 of education;

31 (3) The development and implementation, in consultation with the
32 superintendent or chief administrator of the residential school or his
33 or her designee, of the curriculum;

34 (4) The conduct of a program of education, including related
35 student activities, for residents who are three years of age and less
36 than twenty-one years of age, and have not met high school graduation
37 requirements as now or hereafter established by the state board of
38 education and the school district which includes:

1 (a) Not less than one hundred and eighty school days each school
2 year;

3 (b) Special education pursuant to RCW 28A.155.010 through
4 28A.155.100, and vocational education including the job skills training
5 program created in section 7 of this act, as necessary to address the
6 unique needs and limitations of residents. Vocational education
7 opportunities shall be made available to each residential school
8 student between the ages of fourteen and twenty-one. The vocational
9 programs offered shall be occupationally based and provide skills that
10 are transferrable to the emerging labor market; and

11 (c) Such courses of instruction and school related student
12 activities as are provided by the school district for nonresidential
13 school students to the extent it is practical and judged appropriate
14 for the residents by the school district after consultation with the
15 superintendent or chief administrator of the residential school:
16 PROVIDED, That a preschool special education program may be provided
17 for handicapped residential school students;

18 (5) The control of students while participating in a program of
19 education conducted pursuant to this section and the discipline,
20 suspension or expulsion of students for violation of reasonable rules
21 of conduct adopted by the school district; and

22 (6) The expenditure of funds for the direct and indirect costs of
23 maintaining and operating the program of education that are
24 appropriated by the legislature and allocated by the superintendent of
25 public instruction for the exclusive purpose of maintaining and
26 operating residential school programs of education, and funds from
27 federal and private grants, bequests and gifts made for the purpose of
28 maintaining and operating the program of education.

29 **Sec. 9.** RCW 28A.190.040 and 1990 c 33 s 173 are each amended to
30 read as follows:

31 The duties and authority of the department of social and health
32 services and of each superintendent or chief administrator of a
33 residential school to support each program of education conducted by a
34 school district pursuant to RCW 28A.190.030, shall include the
35 following:

36 (1) The provision of transportation for residential school students
37 to and from the sites of the program of education through the purchase,
38 lease or rental of school buses and other vehicles as necessary;

1 (2) The provision of safe and healthy building and playground space
2 for the conduct of the program of education through the construction,
3 purchase, lease or rental of such space as necessary;

4 (3) The provision of furniture, vocational instruction machines and
5 tools, building and playground fixtures, and other equipment and
6 fixtures for the conduct of the program of education through
7 construction, purchase, lease or rental as necessary;

8 (4) The provision of heat, lights, telephones, janitorial services,
9 repair services, and other support services for the vehicles, building
10 and playground spaces, equipment and fixtures provided for in this
11 section;

12 (5) The employment, supervision and control of persons to transport
13 students and to maintain the vehicles, building and playground spaces,
14 equipment and fixtures, provided for in this section;

15 (6) Clinical and medical evaluation services necessary to a
16 determination by the school district of the educational needs of
17 residential school students; and

18 (7) Such other support services and facilities as are reasonably
19 necessary for the conduct of the program of education and the job
20 skills training program created in section 7 of this act.

21 NEW SECTION. Sec. 10. Sections 2 through 6 of this act are each
22 added to chapter 43.330 RCW.

23 NEW SECTION. Sec. 11. (1) The sum of one million five hundred
24 thousand dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is
25 appropriated for the biennium ending June 30, 1995, from the general
26 fund--state to the department of community, trade, and economic
27 development for the purposes of section 2 of this act.

28 (2) The sum of two million dollars, or as much thereof as may be
29 necessary, is appropriated for the biennium ending June 30, 1995, from
30 the general fund--state to the department of community, trade, and
31 economic development for the purposes of sections 3 through 6 of this
32 act.

33 (3) The sum of three hundred thousand dollars, or as much thereof
34 as may be necessary, is appropriated for the biennium ending June 30,

1 1995, from the general fund--state to the department of social and
2 health services for the purposes of sections 7 through 9 of this act.

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