
SENATE BILL 6461

State of Washington

56th Legislature

2000 Regular Session

By Senators B. Sheldon, Winsley, Costa, Patterson, Hargrove, Kline, McAuliffe, Kohl-Welles, Spanel, Rasmussen and Gardner

Read first time 01/17/2000. Referred to Committee on Higher Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to work activities for recipients of temporary
2 assistance for needy families; amending RCW 74.08A.250; and creating
3 new sections.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the best path to
6 leave welfare and achieve long-term economic self-sufficiency is
7 postsecondary education. Recent studies demonstrate that without some
8 postsecondary education, most women who leave welfare for work will
9 earn wages far below the federal poverty line for several years
10 thereafter. In addition, only twenty-two percent of new jobs created
11 through 2006 will be available to women who have only completed high
12 school. Furthermore, the national economy is expected to create fewer
13 low-skill jobs than there will be welfare recipients entering the work
14 force. Some postsecondary education is required in order to qualify
15 for more of the new jobs created. The legislature also finds that
16 young teen parents, who lack postsecondary education, are more likely
17 to return and remain on welfare longer than those with postsecondary
18 education.

1 **Sec. 2.** RCW 74.08A.250 and 1997 c 58 s 311 are each amended to
2 read as follows:

3 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, as used in this
4 chapter, "work activity" means:

5 (1) Unsubsidized paid employment in the private or public sector;

6 (2) Subsidized paid employment in the private or public sector;

7 (3) Work experience, including work associated with the
8 refurbishing of publicly assisted housing, if sufficient paid
9 employment is not available;

10 (4) On-the-job training;

11 (5) Job search and job readiness assistance;

12 (6) Community service programs;

13 (7) Vocational educational training, not to exceed twelve months
14 with respect to any individual except those individuals meeting the
15 requirements of subsection (11) of this section;

16 (8) Job skills training directly related to employment;

17 (9) Education directly related to employment, in the case of a
18 recipient who has not received a high school diploma or a GED;

19 (10) Satisfactory attendance at secondary school or in a course of
20 study leading to a GED, in the case of a recipient who has not
21 completed secondary school or received such a certificate;

22 (11) Satisfactory maintenance of a full credit load in a vocational
23 or two-year community college program providing job-specific education
24 or training in a high demand field, and the individual is within the
25 ages of eighteen and twenty-one years;

26 (12) The provision of child care services to an individual who is
27 participating in a community service program; and

28 (~~(12)~~) (13) Services required by the recipient under RCW
29 74.08.025(3) and 74.08A.010(3) to become employable.

30 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** If any part of this act is found to be in
31 conflict with federal requirements that are a prescribed condition to
32 the allocation of federal funds to the state, the conflicting part of
33 this act is inoperative solely to the extent of the conflict and with
34 respect to the agencies directly affected, and this finding does not
35 affect the operation of the remainder of this act in its application to
36 the agencies concerned. Rules adopted under this act must meet federal

1 requirements that are a necessary condition to the receipt of federal
2 funds by the state.

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