
SENATE BILL 6747

State of Washington

56th Legislature

2000 Regular Session

By Senators Kohl-Welles, Jacobsen, Sheahan, Shin, B. Sheldon, McAuliffe, Horn, Finkbeiner, Winsley, Costa and Rasmussen

Read first time 01/26/2000. Referred to Committee on Higher Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to establishing a working relationship between the
2 high technology industry and the higher education community; creating
3 a new section; and providing an expiration date.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The high technology industry is a major
6 contributor to the economic prosperity of Washington state. The
7 legislature finds that industry must play a key role in assisting and
8 supporting state government and institutions of higher education as
9 Washington strives to enhance its current competitive advantage. As
10 the home to many high technology companies, Washington must create
11 increased opportunities for its citizens to obtain the higher education
12 required by this industry to sustain its competitive advantage.
13 Establishing a strong working relationship between the high technology
14 industry and the higher education community is essential to providing
15 opportunities for employment in high technology-related fields for
16 Washington citizens.

17 (2) Beginning in April 2000, the higher education coordinating
18 board, the state board for community and technical colleges, and a
19 representative of the technology industry shall convene a work group in

1 consultation with the council of presidents and its member
2 institutions, the office of the superintendent of public instruction,
3 the Washington federation of career schools and colleges, the
4 Washington association of independent colleges and universities,
5 representatives from the high technology industry, and other higher
6 education providers.

7 (3) The work group shall (a) review industry recommendations
8 specific to higher education, (b) establish priorities including but
9 not limited to an inventory of higher education high technology
10 programs and offerings, (c) develop strategies to address high
11 technology employment demand, and (d) develop an implementation plan
12 for action by the institutions of higher education and industry to
13 enhance opportunities for employment in high technology fields.

14 (4) The conveners shall report to the fiscal and higher education
15 committees of the legislature by December 1, 2000, on progress made by
16 the work group.

17 (5) This section expires December 31, 2001.

--- END ---