

5201-S3

Sponsor(s): Senate Committee on Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Senators Kohl-Welles, Deccio, Winsley, Carlson, Sheahan, Swecker, Jacobsen, Hargrove, B. Sheldon, Shin, McAuliffe and Fairley)

Brief Description: Creating the higher education for lifelong progress program.

SB 5201-S3 - DIGEST

(DIGEST OF PROPOSED 3RD SUBSTITUTE)

Declares an intent to provide access to postsecondary education for qualified adult recipients of temporary assistance for needy families, while maintaining the emphasis on employment that is the hallmark of the WorkFirst program.

Declares an intent to provide temporary assistance for needy families grants, including working connections child care and tuition assistance, to college-qualified individuals, with the goal of providing a means for highly motivated welfare recipients to successfully complete college, exit assistance, and secure careers to benefit themselves, their families, and society.

Requires the department to contract with the Washington state institute for public policy for the performance of an outcome study of program participants. The study shall, at a minimum:

- (1) Track degree or certificate completion by participants;
- (2) Report on wage progression of participants;
- (3) Report on the program's dropout rate, including temporary assistance for needy families' recidivism;
- (4) Quantify the projected increase in lifetime earnings of program graduates; and
- (5) Report on self-identified enhancers and barriers to success in postsecondary education experience by the study population.

Provides that the results of the outcome study shall be reported annually, no later than January 15th, beginning in 2004, to the governor and to appropriate committees of the legislature.