

SB 6261 - H COMM AMD  
By Committee on Higher Education

ADOPTED AND ENGROSSED 3/4/08

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the  
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that there is a  
4 persistent and unacceptable high rate of unemployment among young  
5 people in Washington. The unemployment rate among those between  
6 eighteen and twenty-four years of age is seventeen percent, about four  
7 times the unemployment rate among the general population. It is the  
8 legislature's intent that the workforce training and education  
9 coordinating board examine programs to help young people be more  
10 successful in the workforce and make recommendations to improve  
11 policies and programs in Washington.

12 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28C.18.060 and 2007 c 149 s 1 are each amended to read  
13 as follows:

14 The board, in cooperation with the operating agencies of the state  
15 training system and private career schools and colleges, shall:

16 (1) Concentrate its major efforts on planning, coordination  
17 evaluation, policy analysis, and recommending improvements to the  
18 state's training system((~~-~~));

19 (2) Advocate for the state training system and for meeting the  
20 needs of employers and the workforce for workforce education and  
21 training((~~-~~));

22 (3) Establish and maintain an inventory of the programs of the  
23 state training system, and related state programs, and perform a  
24 biennial assessment of the vocational education, training, and adult  
25 basic education and literacy needs of the state; identify ongoing and  
26 strategic education needs; and assess the extent to which employment,  
27 training, vocational and basic education, rehabilitation services, and  
28 public assistance services represent a consistent, integrated approach  
29 to meet such needs((~~-~~));

1 (4) Develop and maintain a state comprehensive plan for workforce  
2 training and education, including but not limited to, goals,  
3 objectives, and priorities for the state training system, and review  
4 the state training system for consistency with the state comprehensive  
5 plan. In developing the state comprehensive plan for workforce  
6 training and education, the board shall use, but shall not be limited  
7 to: Economic, labor market, and populations trends reports in office  
8 of financial management forecasts; joint office of financial management  
9 and employment security department labor force, industry employment,  
10 and occupational forecasts; the results of scientifically based  
11 outcome, net-impact and cost-benefit evaluations; the needs of  
12 employers as evidenced in formal employer surveys and other employer  
13 input; and the needs of program participants and workers as evidenced  
14 in formal surveys and other input from program participants and the  
15 labor community((~~-~~));

16 (5) In consultation with the higher education coordinating board,  
17 review and make recommendations to the office of financial management  
18 and the legislature on operating and capital facilities budget requests  
19 for operating agencies of the state training system for purposes of  
20 consistency with the state comprehensive plan for workforce training  
21 and education((~~-~~));

22 (6) Provide for coordination among the different operating agencies  
23 and components of the state training system at the state level and at  
24 the regional level((~~-~~));

25 (7) Develop a consistent and reliable database on vocational  
26 education enrollments, costs, program activities, and job placements  
27 from publicly funded vocational education programs in this state((~~-~~));

28 (8)(a) Establish standards for data collection and maintenance for  
29 the operating agencies of the state training system in a format that is  
30 accessible to use by the board. The board shall require a minimum of  
31 common core data to be collected by each operating agency of the state  
32 training system((~~-~~

33 ~~The board shall~~));

34 (b) Develop requirements for minimum common core data in  
35 consultation with the office of financial management and the operating  
36 agencies of the training system((~~-~~));

37 (9) Establish minimum standards for program evaluation for the  
38 operating agencies of the state training system, including, but not

1 limited to, the use of common survey instruments and procedures for  
2 measuring perceptions of program participants and employers of program  
3 participants, and monitor such program evaluation((  ));  
4

5 (10) Every two years administer scientifically based outcome  
6 evaluations of the state training system, including, but not limited  
7 to, surveys of program participants, surveys of employers of program  
8 participants, and matches with employment security department payroll  
9 and wage files. Every five years administer scientifically based net-  
10 impact and cost-benefit evaluations of the state training system((  ))  
11 ;

12 (11) In cooperation with the employment security department,  
13 provide for the improvement and maintenance of quality and utility in  
14 occupational information and forecasts for use in training system  
15 planning and evaluation. Improvements shall include, but not be  
16 limited to, development of state-based occupational change factors  
17 involving input by employers and employees, and delineation of skill  
18 and training requirements by education level associated with current  
19 and forecasted occupations((  ));

20 (12) Provide for the development of common course description  
21 formats, common reporting requirements, and common definitions for  
22 operating agencies of the training system((  ));

23 (13) Provide for effectiveness and efficiency reviews of the state  
24 training system((  ));

25 (14) In cooperation with the higher education coordinating board,  
26 facilitate transfer of credit policies and agreements between  
27 institutions of the state training system, and encourage articulation  
28 agreements for programs encompassing two years of secondary workforce  
29 education and two years of postsecondary workforce education((  ));

30 (15) In cooperation with the higher education coordinating board,  
31 facilitate transfer of credit policies and agreements between private  
32 training institutions and institutions of the state training  
33 system((  ));

34 (16) Develop policy objectives for the workforce investment act,  
35 P.L. 105-220, or its successor; develop coordination criteria for  
36 activities under the act with related programs and services provided by  
37 state and local education and training agencies; and ensure that  
38 entrepreneurial training opportunities are available through programs  
of each local workforce investment board in the state((  ));

1 (17) Make recommendations to the commission of student assessment,  
2 the state board of education, and the superintendent of public  
3 instruction, concerning basic skill competencies and essential core  
4 competencies for K-12 education. Basic skills for this purpose shall  
5 be reading, writing, computation, speaking, and critical thinking,  
6 essential core competencies for this purpose shall be English, math,  
7 science/technology, history, geography, and critical thinking. The  
8 board shall monitor the development of and provide advice concerning  
9 secondary curriculum which integrates vocational and academic  
10 education((~~-~~));

11 (18) Establish and administer programs for marketing and outreach  
12 to businesses and potential program participants((~~-~~));

13 (19) Facilitate the location of support services, including but not  
14 limited to, child care, financial aid, career counseling, and job  
15 placement services, for students and trainees at institutions in the  
16 state training system, and advocate for support services for trainees  
17 and students in the state training system((~~-~~));

18 (20) Facilitate private sector assistance for the state training  
19 system, including but not limited to: Financial assistance, rotation  
20 of private and public personnel, and vocational counseling((~~-~~));

21 (21) Facilitate the development of programs for school-to-work  
22 transition that combine classroom education and on-the-job training,  
23 including entrepreneurial education and training, in industries and  
24 occupations without a significant number of apprenticeship  
25 programs((~~-~~));

26 (22) Include in the planning requirements for local workforce  
27 investment boards a requirement that the local workforce investment  
28 boards specify how entrepreneurial training is to be offered through  
29 the one-stop system required under the workforce investment act, P.L.  
30 105-220, or its successor((~~-~~));

31 (23) Encourage and assess progress for the equitable representation  
32 of racial and ethnic minorities, women, and people with disabilities  
33 among the students, teachers, and administrators of the state training  
34 system. Equitable, for this purpose, shall mean substantially  
35 proportional to their percentage of the state population in the  
36 geographic area served. This function of the board shall in no way  
37 lessen more stringent state or federal requirements for representation

1 of racial and ethnic minorities, women, and people with  
2 disabilities((~~-~~));

3 (24) Participate in the planning and policy development of governor  
4 set-aside grants under P.L. 97-300, as amended((~~-~~));

5 (25) Administer veterans' programs, licensure of private vocational  
6 schools, the job skills program, and the Washington award for  
7 vocational excellence((~~-~~));

8 (26) Allocate funding from the state job training trust fund((~~-~~));

9 (27) Work with the director of community, trade, and economic  
10 development to ensure coordination between workforce training  
11 priorities and that department's economic development and  
12 entrepreneurial development efforts((~~-~~));

13 (28) Conduct research into workforce development programs designed  
14 to reduce the high unemployment rate among young people between  
15 approximately eighteen and twenty-four years of age. In consultation  
16 with the operating agencies, the board shall advise the governor and  
17 legislature on policies and programs to alleviate the high unemployment  
18 rate among young people. The research shall include disaggregated  
19 demographic information and, to the extent possible, income data for  
20 adult youth. The research shall also include a comparison of the  
21 effectiveness of programs examined as a part of the research conducted  
22 in this subsection in relation to the public investment made in these  
23 programs in reducing unemployment of young adults. The board shall  
24 report to the appropriate committees of the legislature by November 15,  
25 2008, and every two years thereafter. Where possible, the data  
26 reported to the legislative committees should be reported in numbers  
27 and in percentages;

28 (29) Adopt rules as necessary to implement this chapter.  
29 The board may delegate to the director any of the functions of this  
30 section.

31 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. If specific funding for the purposes of this  
32 act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not provided by  
33 June 30, 2008, in the omnibus appropriations act, this act is null and  
34 void."

35 Correct the title.

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