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**HOUSE BILL 2311**

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**State of Washington**

**69th Legislature**

**2026 Regular Session**

**By** Representatives Ybarra, Paul, Zahn, and Salahuddin; by request of Student Achievement Council

Prefiled 01/07/26. Read first time 01/12/26. Referred to Committee on Postsecondary Education & Workforce.

1 AN ACT Relating to workforce education investment accountability  
2 and oversight board administrative changes; and amending RCW  
3 28B.77.310.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28B.77.310 and 2023 c 282 s 1 are each amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 (1) The workforce education investment accountability and  
8 oversight board is established. The board consists of 18 members, as  
9 provided in this subsection:

10 (a) Four members of the legislature consisting of the chairs and  
11 ranking minority members of the respective higher education and  
12 workforce development committees of the senate and house of  
13 representatives, ex officio; and

14 (b) The following members appointed by the governor with the  
15 consent of the senate:

16 (i) Five members representing the businesses described in RCW  
17 82.04.299 or subject to the tax rate under RCW 82.04.290(2)(a)(i);

18 (ii) Two members representing labor organizations, one of which  
19 must have expertise in registered apprenticeships and training a  
20 high-demand workforce and one of which must represent faculty at the  
21 four-year institutions of higher education;

1 (iii) Two members representing the institutions of higher  
2 education, as defined in RCW 28B.10.016, one of which must be from  
3 the four-year sector and one of which must be from the community and  
4 technical college sector;

5 (iv) Two members representing students, one of which must be a  
6 community and technical college student;

7 (v) One member representing the independent, not-for-profit  
8 higher education institutions;

9 (vi) One member representing the workforce training and education  
10 coordinating board created under RCW 28C.18.020; and

11 (vii) One member representing the student achievement council,  
12 established under this chapter.

13 (2) Except for ex officio and student members, board members  
14 shall hold their offices for a term of three years until their  
15 successors are appointed. Student board members shall hold one-year  
16 terms.

17 (3) The board shall have two cochair. One cochair shall be one  
18 of the chairs of the respective higher education and workforce  
19 development committees of the legislature and the other cochair shall  
20 be one of the board members representing the businesses described in  
21 RCW 82.04.299 or subject to the tax rate under RCW  
22 82.04.290(2)(a)(i). The cochairs shall hold the position for a (~~one-~~  
23 ~~year~~) two-year term. The board members shall elect the cochairs  
24 (~~annually~~) biennially.

25 (4) Nine voting members of the board constitute a quorum for the  
26 transaction of business. The board shall meet at least four times a  
27 year.

28 (5) Staff support for the board shall be provided by the student  
29 achievement council established in this chapter.

30 (6) The purposes of the board are to:

31 (a) Provide guidance and recommendations to the legislature on  
32 what workforce education priorities should be funded with the  
33 workforce education investment account; and

34 (b) Ensure accountability that the workforce education  
35 investments funded with the workforce education investment account  
36 are producing the intended results and are effectively increasing  
37 student success and career readiness, such as by increasing  
38 retention, completion, and job placement rates.

39 (7) The board shall consult data from the education data center  
40 established under RCW 43.41.400 and the (~~workforce training and~~

1 ~~education—coordinating—board))~~ student achievement council  
2 established under this chapter when reviewing and determining whether  
3 workforce education investments funded from the workforce education  
4 investment account are effectively increasing student success and  
5 career readiness. (~~The workforce training and education coordinating~~  
6 ~~board—shall—maintain—the—workforce—education—investment~~  
7 ~~accountability and oversight board data dashboard on a public-facing~~  
8 ~~portal and work with the board to update and modify the data~~  
9 ~~dashboard as new performance metrics are identified.))~~)

10 (8) The board shall report its recommendations to the appropriate  
11 committees of the legislature by (~~August 1st~~) December 31st of each  
12 year.

13 (9) For the purposes of this section, "board" means the workforce  
14 education investment accountability and oversight board established  
15 in this section.

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