

**WASHINGTON STATE
WORKFORCE TRAINING AND EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD
MEETING NO. 125
MARCH 27, 2008**

LEGISLATIVE RECAP

Background

During the legislative session, the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board (Workforce Board) staff monitors and provides input on legislation and budget proposals that match the priorities identified in *High Skills, High Wages*, Board budget and policy requests, and operating agency proposals endorsed by the Board.

Attached is a summary of significant workforce-related bills and budget appropriations enacted by the 2008 Legislature (organized by the youth, adult and industry goals identified in *High Skills, High Wages: 2006, Washington's Strategic Plan for Workforce Development*). The attachment also identifies new assignments for the Workforce Board and workforce-related bills that did not pass. Also attached is the final report of the "Matrix of Workforce Policy and Budget Issues" used to track priority workforce issues.

Board Action Requested: None. For discussion purposes only.

2008 WORKFORCE-RELATED BILLS AND APPROPRIATIONS

Youth

A. Bill(s) Passed:

1. 2SSB 6377– Career and Technical Education Programs - Prime Sponsor: Sen. Hobbs.

- a. **Bill Summary:** Requires the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) to develop a schedule for career and technical education plan re-approval. Requires OSPI to develop a list of statewide high-demand programs for secondary career and technical education. Requires all approved preparatory secondary career and technical education programs to meet specified minimum criteria. Requires OSPI to establish performance measures and targets and monitor the performance of career and technical education programs. Requires the development of model career and technical education programs of study. Requires community and technical colleges to create articulation agreements with high schools and skill centers to offer dual high school and college credit for secondary career and technical courses. Creates the secondary integrated basic education and skills training (I-BEST) pilot project to integrate career and technical instruction, core academic and basic skills, and English as a second language, for secondary school students. Directs the Workforce Board to create an in-demand scholarship program to attract students into high-demand fields. Requires OSPI to conduct a feasibility study to create technical high schools. Extends the reporting deadline of the CTE Curricula Advisory Committee to December, 2009.
- b. **Appropriation for the Bill:** \$2.75 million General Fund-State (GF-S) are provided to OSPI to implement the grant provisions in the program.
- c. **Workforce Board Assignments:**
- directs OSPI to work with the Workforce Board to establish performance measures and targets for program accountability.
 - directs OSPI, the Workforce Board, the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC) and others to develop model CTE programs of study.
 - directs the Workforce Board to create and administer the In-Demand Scholarship Program to attract students into high demand fields that require one to three years of postsecondary education or apprenticeship (not funded, therefore not required).
 - the CTE Curricula Advisory Committee, jointly staffed by the Workforce Board, will submit a report to the Legislature by December, 2009.

2. SB 6261 – Adult Youth - Prime Sponsor: Sen. Kilmer

- a. **Bill Summary:** Directs the Workforce Board to work with other agencies to conduct research and evaluation on work and learning programs that serve adult youth (ages 18 to 24).
- b. **Appropriation for the Bill:** Expected to be performed with no new funds.
- c. **Workforce Board Assignment:** The Board is required to submit a report, including demographic and income information, to the appropriate committees of the Legislature by November 15, 2008, and every two years thereafter.

3. **2SSB 6673 – Extended Learning Opportunities – Prime Sponsor: Sen. McAuliffe**
 - a. **Bill Summary:** Creates the extended learning opportunities program and instructional support for students who are not on track to meet local or state graduation requirements. Provides grants to middle schools, high schools, or skill centers, to develop or upgrade high-demand career and technical education programs.
 - b. Appropriation for the Bill: \$500, 000 from GF-S are provided solely for the summer programs for middle and high school students to explore career opportunities rich in math, science, and technology using career and technical education as the delivery model.

B. Budget Appropriation(s):

1. **Integrated English Language Learning and Skills Training (I-Best):** \$250,000 from GF-S are provided to OSPI for five grants to skills centers to design and develop programs that integrate career and technical education and English-language instruction.
2. **Skill Center Construction** The capital budget authorizes \$100 million in state general obligation bonds for expanding skills center capacity. Funding is provided for the following skills center projects from this new fund source:
 - \$75,000 - Seattle Skills Center feasibility study
 - \$50,000 - North Central Skills Center land purchase option
 - \$550,000 - Northeast King County Skills Center pre-design and design
 - \$925,000 - Grant County Skills Center pre-design and design
 - \$3,070,000 - Pierce County Skills Center pre-design and design
 - \$475,000 - Feasibility studies for satellite/branch campus skills centers

C. Bill(s) Not Passed:

1. **None of Significance**

Adult

A. Bill(s) Passed:

1. **SHB 2582 – Child Care at Higher Education Institutions - Prime Sponsor: Rep. Roberts**
 - a. **Summary of Bill:** Directs the Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB) and SBCTC to award child care grants on a competitive or matching basis. The HECB administers the program for the four-year institutions and SBCTC administers the program for the two-year institutions.
 - b. **Appropriation for the Bill:** An additional \$500,000 from GF- S provided for both the HECB and the SBCTC for higher education student child care matching grants.
2. **SHCR 4408 – HECB Master Plan - Prime Sponsor: Rep. Wallace**
 - a. **Summary of Bill:** Approves the statewide strategic master plan update by the HECB.

3. **SSB 6751 – Unemployment Benefits for Apprentices - Prime Sponsor: Sen. Kohl-Welles**

- a. **Summary of Bill:** Allows individuals who left work in order to enter certain apprenticeship programs to receive unemployment insurance benefits.

B. Budget Appropriation(s):

1. **Aerospace Apprenticeships:** \$3 million from GF-S provided to SBCTC solely for the design, development, training, and related expenses associated with a joint labor/management apprenticeship program established under the auspices of an international union, which will include but not be limited to training in composite technology.
2. **Adult Literacy Education:** \$115,000 from GF-S are provided to SBCTC solely to (a) convene a one-day summit to inform the public, adult literacy instructional personnel, and local, state, and community leaders about the status of adult literacy and adult literacy education; and (b) conduct a media campaign to increase public awareness about the availability of adult, family, and workforce literacy services and resources.
3. **Health Professional Scholarships:** \$1.25 million in additional monies from GF are provided to HECB solely for the health professional scholarship and loan program.
4. **Prior Learning Credits:** \$14,000 from GF-S provided to HECB to convene a work group to assess current institutional practices in accepting prior learning credits and make recommendations on implementation of the workgroup's findings.

C. Bill(s) Not Passed:

1. **HB 3210 – Long-Range Workforce Planning – Prime Sponsor: Rep. Jarrett**
 - a. **Bill Summary:** The time period covered by the Workforce Board comprehensive plan is lengthened from two years to ten years, with updates every four years.
 - b. **Implications:** This bill will probably be re-introduced next session, although the Board can move forward this year with a ten-year planning focus.

Industry

A. Bill(s) Passed:

1. **2SHB 2815 – Green Jobs Training - Prime Sponsor: Rep. Dunshee**
 - a. **Bill Summary:** Contains provisions authorizing labor market analysis, creating skill panels, and creating a green collar job training program to train workers for clean energy jobs. Directs the Workforce Board to create and pilot green industry skill panels.
 - b. **Appropriation for the Bill:**
 - \$207,000 from GF-S provided to Community, Trade and Economic Development (CTED) for implementation of 2SHB 2815 (green collar jobs). The amount provided includes \$50,000 for the analysis under section 8(1) of the bill.

- \$222,000 from GF-S provided to the Employment Security Department (ESD) to implement ESSHB 2815 (green collar jobs).

c. Workforce Board Assignments:

- Directs the Workforce Board to establish skill panels. (Not funded this biennium.)
- Directs CTED, in consultation with ESD, the Workforce Board, SBCTC, and the HECB to develop a defined list of terms, consistent with current workforce and economic development terms, associated with green economy industries and jobs.
- Directs ESD, in consultation with CTED, the Workforce Board, SBCTC, the HECB, Washington State University small business development center, and the Washington State University extension energy program, to conduct labor market research to analyze the current labor market and projected job growth in the green economy, the current and projected recruitment and skill requirement of green economy industry employers, the wage and benefits ranges of jobs within green economy industries, and the education and training requirements of entry-level and incumbent workers in those industries.
- Directs SBCTC, in partnership with business, labor, and the Workforce Board, to identify job-specific training programs offered by qualified postsecondary institutions that lead to a credential, certificate, or degree in green industry occupations. (Not funded this biennium.)

2. SSB 5254 – Industry Skill Panels - Prime Sponsor: Sen. Kilmer

- Bill Summary:** Directs the Workforce Board to administer industry skill panel grants and establish industry skill panel standards that identify the expectations for industry skill panel products and services. Continued funding of particular industry skill panels is to be based on meeting the standards established by the board under this act.
- Appropriation for the Bill:** No additional money for the biennium. (\$680,000 appropriated previously.)
- Workforce Board Assignment:** In addition to administering grants and establishing standards, directs the Workforce Board to report annually on the results of the industry skill panels.

3. SB 6295 – Worksite Digital Learning - Prime Sponsor: Sen. Kilmer

- Bill Summary:** Directs the Workforce Board to convene a work group on electronically distributed learning to (a) identify and evaluate current workplace-based educational programs; (b) review and establish standards and best practices; (c) recommend methods to increase student access and completion; (d) determine methods to increase the institutional supply and quality of open course materials and digital open textbooks; and (f) review and report demographic information on enrollments, retention, and completions. Directs the Workforce Board to establish up to eight pilot projects providing employer workplace-based educational programs with distance learning components.
- Appropriation for the Bill:** No funds provided. Budget bill language directs the Workforce board to conduct a study within current funding.

B. Budget Appropriation(s):

1. **Health Workforce Survey**: An additional \$323,000 from GF-S provided to DOH for conducting the health professions workforce and demographic survey as directed in Chapter 236, Laws of 2006.
2. **Health Care Workers**: \$1.5 million from GF-S provided to SBCTC solely for competitive grants to labor, management, and college partnerships to develop or expand and evaluate innovative training programs for incumbent hospital workers that lead to careers in nursing and other high-demand health care fields.

C. Bill(s) Not Passed:

1. **EHB 2608 - High Demand Definition** – Prime Sponsor: Rep. Hasegawa
 - a. **Bill Summary**: SBCTC’s definition of “high employer demand program of study” is “an apprenticeship, undergraduate, or graduate certificate or degree program in which the number of students prepared for employment per year from in-state institutions is substantially less than the number of projected job openings per year in that field, statewide or in a sub-state region.” For purposes of the Opportunity Grant program, the SBCTC will use this new term instead of “job specific training program” that presently, but would no longer, include a factor looking at programs in which training capacity is underutilized. CTED uses the term “industry cluster” to identify geographic concentrations of interdependent competitive firms that do business with each other. This term is expanded to include governmental and educational institutions. The term is replaced with the term “sector” and “industry sector.” “Sector” is defined as a group of industries with similar business processes, products, or services as categorized by the North American Industry Classification System.
 - b. **Implications**: This bill will need to be passed next legislative session, although we can request that agencies implement the definitions in their respective programs and budget planning.
2. **3SSB 5743 – Job Skills Program** – Prime Sponsor: Sen. Kastama
 - a. **Bill Summary**: Requires the job skills program to develop additional mechanisms for identification of, and outreach to, firms with a strong potential to effectively compete in the global marketplace after participating in the job skills program. Directs Associate Development Organizations to participate with the local workforce development councils in carrying out their planning efforts.
 - b. **Implications**: The Board may wish to consider requiring ADO coordination with WDCs in local planning efforts as part of a workforce and economic development agency request bill that may be considered for next session.
3. **SSB 6774 – Industry Clusters** – Prime Sponsor: Sen. Kastama
 - a. **Bill Summary**: Promotes regional industry cluster and sector growth. Revises the competitive grant program to fund activities designed to further regional cluster and sector growth. Defines industry clusters and sectors. Requires a cluster advisory committee that consists of CTED, the Workforce Board, SBCTC, and ESD, to coordinate state support for industry clusters.

- b. **Implications:** There will be a need to address coordination of industry cluster support in a broader bill that deals with coordinating workforce and economic development next session.

Additional Workforce Board Assignments

A. Bill(s) Passed:

1. **2SHB 2783 – Transfers and Academic Planning - Prime Sponsor: Rep. Wallace**
Requires the Higher Education Coordinating Board to convene a work group including representatives from SBCTC, the Workforce Board, the HECB, the council of presidents, two-year institutions of higher education, and four-year institutions of higher education to develop a plan to monitor the progress and success of transfer students and a detailed plan for developing and implementing a statewide web-based academic planning tool.

B. Budget Appropriation:

2. **Dual Credit Programs:** \$10,000 from GF-S provided to OSPI to convene a work group that includes representatives from dual credit programs including representatives from high schools, the tech prep program, SBCTC, the public four-year institutions of higher education, the Workforce Board, the HECB, and the council of presidents to develop a strategic plan for statewide coordination of dual credit programs including but not limited to Running Start, College in the High School, Tech Prep, Advanced Placement, and International Baccalaureate. The plan shall clearly articulate the purpose and definition of each program, the goals associated with each program, the personnel required both to administer and teach each program, the benefits to students, and the barriers to access.

2008 Matrix of Workforce Policy and Budget Issues – Status As of Sine Die

Youth-Related Issues	Gov	House Comm.	House	Senate Comm.	Senate	Leg.
OSPI Comprehensive CTE legislation (6377)	X	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed
CTE Budget Enhancements	Secondary I-Best only in budget	\$3.250 million	\$3.250 million	\$3.250 million	\$3.25 million	\$3.5 million
Research on Older Youth Bill (6261)	X	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed (no \$)
Adult-Related Issues	Gov	House Comm.	House	Senate Comm.	Senate	Leg.
Hospital Worker Incumbent Worker Training	\$3 million in Governor's Budget	\$1 million in Budget	\$1 million in Budget	\$3 million in Budget	\$3 million in Budget	\$1.5 million in Budget
Health Workforce Survey	In Budget	In Budget	In Budget	In Budget	In Budget	In Budget
Worker Retraining Program – Enhanced FTE Funding	<u>Not in budget</u>	<u>Not in budget</u>	<u>Not in budget</u>	<u>Not in budget</u>	<u>Not in budget</u>	<u>Not in budget</u>
CTC Instructional Equipment – Increased Funding level for Replacement	<u>Not in budget</u>	<u>Not in budget</u>	<u>Not in budget</u>	<u>Not in budget</u>	<u>Not in budget</u>	<u>Not in budget</u>
Industry Issues	Gov	House Comm.	House	Senate Comm.	Senate	Leg.
High Demand Common Definition Bill (2608)	Okayed	Passed	Passed	Passed	X	X
Green Jobs Training (2815)	Governor Request Bill; <u>Not in budget</u>	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed
Local Workforce and Economic Development Coordination (SB 5743)	X	Passed	Not Passed	Passed	Passed	X
Work-Site Digital Learning Bill (6295)	X	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed (No \$)
Operational Issues	Gov	House Comm.	House	Senate Comm.	Senate	Leg.
Additional Workforce Board Research Staff Funding	<u>Not in budget</u>	X	X	X	X	X
Timeline for State Comprehensive Plan for Workforce Development (3210)		Passed	Passed	Passed	Not Passed	Not Passed