

WORKFORCE-RELATED BILLS
2012 Legislative Session
Bills Surviving 2nd Floor Cut-off: As of March. 8, 2012

Youth-Related

SHB 2254 – Foster Care Education - Prime Sponsor – Rep. Kagi

Status: House Passed Final Passage

Declares the purpose of the Passport to College Promise Program is to improve the high school graduation outcomes of foster youth through coordinated P-20 and child welfare outreach, intervention, and planning and to improve postsecondary outcomes for foster care youth..

Directs the Department of Social and Health services (DSHS), to the extent funds are appropriated, to contract with at least one nongovernmental entity to administer a program of education coordination for foster care youth.

Foster care youth are to be automatically enrolled, with no action necessary by the student or the student's family, in the Washington College Bound Scholarship program. Alters the eligibility for students in dependent care for the College Bound Scholarship. They must be dependent and in grades 7 through 12, or under 21 and not have graduated from high school.

DSHS is authorized to disclose educational records of foster care youth to those entities with which it has contracted, or with which it is formally collaborating, having responsibility for educational support services and educational outcomes of foster care students. DSHS is encouraged to put in place data-sharing agreements to assure accountability.

The K-12 data governance group must create a comprehensive needs requirement document to enable the provision, on at least quarterly basis, of: (i) Current education records of foster care students to DSHS and, from DSHS, to those entities with which the DSHS has contracted, or with which it is formally collaborating, having responsibility for educational support services and educational outcomes.

The expiration date of the Passport program the expiration date is extended from 2013 to 2022.

Adult-Related

SHB 2483 – Office of Student Achievement Council – Prime Sponsor – Rep. Seaquist; By Request of the Governor

Status: Senate Second Reading Calendar

Student Achievement Council.

The Student Achievement Council (Council) is created as a state agency with the purpose of educational attainment in the state. The executive director is appointed by the Council rather than the Governor.

Membership of the Student Achievement Council

The Council is comprised of 10 voting members: five citizen members are appointed by the Governor, with the consent of the Senate. These members must serve for four-year terms with the initial members' terms staggered, and they must be diverse from different geographic parts of the state; and one of the citizens must be a student; a representative of the four-year public baccalaureate institutions selected by the presidents of the institutions; a representative of community and technical colleges; a representative of the Superintendent of Public Instruction; a

representative of workforce training; and a representative of independent nonprofit degree granting institutions.

The Joint Select Legislative Committee on Student Achievement

A Joint Select Legislative Committee on Student Achievement (Committee) is established to review the Council's work and make policy and budget recommendations on improving educational attainment in Washington. The Committee must be comprised of 16 legislators with four members from each caucus in the Senate and the House of Representatives who serve on education, higher education, workforce development, or appropriations committees.

Purpose and Mission of the Council

The dual mission of the Council is to propose goals, policies, and budgets to the Governor and Legislature to increase educational attainment and to make recommendations related to innovations that improve the adaptability and effectiveness of the higher education system. The Council is required to link the work of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the State Board of Education, the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges, the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board, the public baccalaureate institutions, and the independent schools and colleges. The Council is directed to be a leader in higher education research and analysis.

Goal Setting

The Council is required to propose educational attainment goals, and certificates and degrees that meet workforce needs. At the same time, each agency and institution must continue to have individual goals and strategic plans. In addition, the Council is required to identify the resources necessary to meet the goals and recognize current state economic conditions and resources.

Strategic Planning

The Council must conduct strategic planning with collaboration of agencies, stakeholders, and the Legislature, and develop a 10-year strategic roadmap.

Innovation, Research, and Data

The Council is required to facilitate the development and expansion of innovative practices with, between, and among the sectors to increase educational attainment, including accountability measures to determine the effectiveness of the innovations. The Council must use the data and analysis produced by the Education Research and Data Center (ERDC) at the Office of Financial Management in developing policy recommendations and setting goals. In conducting research and analysis, the Council must at a minimum: 1) identify barriers to increasing educational attainment, evaluative effectiveness of the various educational models, identify best practices, and recommend methods to overcome barriers; 2) analyze data from multiple sources including data from academic research and from areas and agencies outside of education, to determine best practices to remove barriers to improving educational attainment; 3) assess educational achievement disaggregated by income level, age, gender, race and ethnicity, country of origin, and other relevant demographic groups working with the ERDC; 4) track progress toward meeting the state's goals; and 5) communicate results and provide access to data analysis to policymakers, the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, institutions of higher education, students, and the public.

Transitions

The Council must set minimum college admission standards for four-year institutions of higher education. The Council must develop programs to encourage students to prepare and pursue postsecondary college and career programs. The Council is charged with recommending policies that require coordination between or among sectors from high school to postsecondary education including community and technical colleges, four-year institutions of higher education,

apprenticeships, training, and workplace education; between two-year and four-year institutions of higher education; and from postsecondary education to career.

Administering Student Financial Aid

The Office of Student Financial Assistance is within the Council. The Council must administer student financial aid programs including the State Need Grant, the College Bound Scholarship, the Guaranteed Education Tuition payment, and work study programs. The Council must administer state and federal grants and programs including programs that provide incentives for improvement related to increasing access and success in postsecondary education.

Consumer Protection

Consumer protection duties of the Council include approving private, degree-granting institutions, approving programs that are eligible programs for students to use federal benefits such as veterans' benefits, and implement statutory residency requirements through adopting rules.

SSB 6121 Financial Aid Counseling Curriculum – Prime Sponsor – Sen. Frockt

Status: Delivered to the Governor

Requires the office of student financial assistance to provide and make available on a website financial aid counseling curriculum to institutions of higher education with state need grant recipients.

ESB 6141 – Life-Long Learning – Prime Sponsor – Sen. Kilmer

Status: Delivered to the Governor

Establishes a lifelong learning program within the Workforce Board to provide the opportunity for employees, with the support of their employers, to create educational savings accounts that may be used to fund approved education and training.

Authorizes the Board to partner with financial institutions and other public, private, and nonprofit organizations and to develop program policies and system options that will lead the program to become self-sustaining.

Requires the Board to: 1) establish the policies, rules, and procedures, including but not limited to, standards for fund management and for approving career development plans and education and training; 2) ensure the program is marketed to various geographic areas and industry sectors of the state, as well as to low-wage workers, their employers, and the communities in which they reside; and 3) help partners coordinate new career counseling services with existing online and other providers, including the state's WorkSource system.

SB 6289 – Self-Employment Training – Prime Sponsor – Sen. Rolfes

Status: Delivered to the Governor

Requires the Employment Security Department (ESD) to inform all individuals eligible for unemployment benefits of the availability of self-employment assistance and entrepreneurial training programs and of the training provisions which would allow them to pursue commissioner approved training.

Individuals who are eligible for services under the federal Workforce Investment Act (WIA), must be provided the opportunity to enroll in self-employment assistance or entrepreneurial training programs to prepare them for self-employment on the same basis as they are provided the opportunity to enroll in other training programs funded under WIA.

Requires ESD to work with local workforce development councils to ensure that the contracting process with training providers is efficient and that the number of entrepreneurial training providers on the state's eligible training provider list is sufficient to meet demand.

Requires each local workforce development council to: (a) notify all individuals eligible for services under the workforce investment act of the availability of self-employment assistance and entrepreneurial training; and (b) establish and implement a plan for expending WIA funds on self-employment assistance and entrepreneurial training at a rate that is commensurate with either the demand for such services or the rate of self-employment within the council's workforce development area.

Industry-Related

2SHB 2156 - Coordination & Evaluation of Aerospace Training - Prime Sponsor – Rep. Kenney (By Request of the Governor)

Status: Delivered to the Governor

Requires the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (College Board) to facilitate coordination and alignment of aerospace training programs to the maximum extent possible. Coordination and alignment must include, but is not limited to, the following: 1) providing information about aerospace training programs; 2) providing information about grants and partnership opportunities; 3) providing coordination for professional development for faculty and other education and training providers; evaluating certain programs annually for completion and job placement results; and making budget recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature on aerospace training programs.

Requires the College Board to establish the Aerospace and Advanced Materials Manufacturing Pipeline Advisory Committee (Advisory Committee). This Advisory Committee must consist of 11 to 15 members. A majority of members, including the chair, must represent industry. At least two members must represent labor. Other members must be education and training providers, including directors of long-term training, short-term training, and apprenticeship programs. The Advisory Committee is required to: 1) provide direction for a skills gap analysis produced with the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board (Workforce Board); 2) establish goals for students served, program completion rates, and employment rates; 3) coordinate and disseminate industry advice for training programs; and 4) recommend training programs for review by the Workforce Board in coordination with the College Board.

Requires the Workforce Board, with the College Board, to annually evaluate training program recommended for review. These evaluations must include outcome results for employers and persons receiving training. The Workforce Board is also required to conduct and complete analyses of the training system, including net impacts, cost-benefit analyses, and outcome results every four years.

HB 2482 – Innovation Partnership Zones – Prime Sponsor – Rep. Kenney

Status: House Passed Final Passage

Requires Innovation Partnership Zones to be part of an industry cluster, which is defined as a geographic concentration of interconnected companies in a single industry; related businesses in other industries, including suppliers and customers; and associated institutions, including government and education.

SHB 2673 – Transportation Workforce – Prime Sponsor – Rep. Clibborn

Status: House Passed Final Passage

Requires the Department of Transportation to coordinate with the Apprenticeship and Training Council to provide any of the following: (a) preapprenticeship programs; (b) preemployment counseling; (c) orientations on the highway construction industry, including outreach to women, minorities, and other disadvantaged individuals; (d) basic skills improvement classes; (e) career counseling; (f) remedial training; (g) entry requirements for training programs; (h) supportive services and assistance with transportation; (i) child care and special needs; (j) job site mentoring and retention services; and (k) assistance with tools, protective clothing, and other related support for employment costs.

Requires that 1/2 of 1 percent of the funds apportioned to the state under the federal Surface Transportation Program and the Highway Bridge Replacement and Rehabilitation Program be expended to increase diversity in the highway construction workforce.

Directs the Department to annually submit a report containing: (a) An analysis of the results of their activities; (b) the amount available and expended from federal funds for the activities; and (c) the performance outcomes achieved from each activity, including the number of persons receiving services, training, and employment.

SSB 5982 – Joint Center for Aerospace Technology Innovation – Prime Sponsor – Sen. Kastama (By Request of the Governor)

Status: Senate President Signed

Creates the Joint Center for Aerospace Technology Innovation to pursue joint industry-university research that can be used in aerospace firms, enhance the education of engineering students, and work with the aerospace industry to identify research needs and opportunities to transfer off-the-shelf technologies.

The center is to operate as a multi-institutional center under the joint authority of the University of Washington and Washington State University. The center will have a board of directors appointed by the Governor, representing a cross section of the aerospace industry and higher education. The board is to: 1) hire an executive director; 2) identify research areas to benefit the aerospace industry in Washington; 3) identify entrepreneurial researchers and the steps the universities will take to recruit such researchers; 4) assist firms to integrate existing technologies into their operations; 5) align the center's activities with those of Impact Washington and Innovate Washington; 6) ensure that students enrolled in an aerospace engineering curriculum have direct experience with aerospace firms; 7) assist researchers and firms in guarding intellectual property; 8) promote collaboration between industry and faculty; and 9) develop non-state support for research.

The facilities and resources of the center must be made available to all four-year institutions of higher education.

By June 30, 2013, the board is to develop an operating plan that includes specifics on how the center will accomplish its duties. The board is to provide a biennial report to the Legislature and the Governor. The center may solicit funds from a variety of sources to carry out its obligations.

If specific funding for the purposes of the act is not provided in the omnibus appropriations act, this act is null and void.

ESSB 6355 – Associate Development Organizations – Prime Sponsor – Sen. Rolfes

Status: Senate President Signed

Requires Associate Development Organizations (ADOs) to meet and share best practices with each other at least twice annually. In their annual reports to Commerce, ADOs must provide a summary of best practices shared and implemented, employment and economic information on the community or regional area they are serving, and the amount of funding received. Annual

reports may also include information on the impact of the contracting organization on wages, exports, tax revenue, small business creation, foreign direct investment, business relocations, expansions, terminations, and capital investment.

Requires data standards and data definitions to be developed during the contracting process that takes place between Commerce and ADOs every two years. The Washington Economic Development Commission (Commission) is included in the contracting process.

Requires Associate Development Organizations to provide information showing their impact on employment and overall changes in employment in their annual reports.

Innovation Partnership Zones are included in the list of appropriate partners for ADOs to work with when providing assistance to businesses.

Requires the Commission to consult with ADOs in developing the statewide economic development strategy and include information it requests from the ADOs in its progress report. The ADOs must provide the Commission with information to be used in the statewide economic development strategy and progress report. The Commission is permitted to include recommendations for ADOs in the progress report or statewide economic development strategy.

SSB 6371 – Customized Training Program – Prime Sponsor – Sen. Shin

Status: Delivered to the Governor

Extends the program expiration date to July 1, 2017.