
SENATE BILL 5225

State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1993 Regular Session

By Senators Skratek, Erwin, M. Rasmussen, Winsley and Barr

Read first time 01/18/93. Referred to Committee on Trade, Technology & Economic Development.

1 AN ACT Relating to a state-wide work-based learning program for
2 youth; adding a new chapter to Title 28C RCW; and creating a new
3 section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** SHORT TITLE. This chapter shall be known
6 and may be cited as the work-based learning for youth act.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** PURPOSE. It is the purpose of this chapter
8 to strengthen the economy to expand educational opportunities for youth
9 by supporting efforts to increase the supply of skilled workers. It is
10 the intent of this chapter to enhance the career options and earning
11 potential of selected students by building an industry-driven,
12 competency-based learning system that integrates existing academic,
13 vocational, and technical education programs to link school and work
14 experiences directly.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** DEFINITIONS. Unless the context clearly
16 requires otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout
17 this chapter.

1 (1) "Assessment" means a measurement of student performance and
2 achievement used for admission to, continuation in, or completion of a
3 work-based learning program.

4 (2) "Competency standards" means specific statements describing
5 what standards a participant in a work-based learning program must meet
6 before completing the program.

7 (3) "Council" means the council on work-based learning.

8 (4) "Governance" means specific statements of the duties and
9 responsibilities of each component of the work-based learning system
10 and the relationship of each to the other.

11 (5) "Superintendent" means the superintendent of public
12 instruction.

13 (6) "Worksite experience" means that part of the work-based
14 learning program conducted at an employer-supervised worksite.

15 (7) "Work-based learning program" means a competency-based program
16 for youth that coordinates and integrates classroom instruction with a
17 structured, work-based employment experience in which the participant
18 remains a student and receives training in a skilled occupational area
19 or occupational cluster.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** COUNCIL ON WORK-BASED LEARNING. (1) The
21 state work force training and education coordinating board shall
22 establish a subcommittee to be known as the council on work-based
23 learning.

24 (2) The council shall be composed of fifteen members and shall
25 include the superintendent, the commissioner of the employment security
26 department, the director of the department of labor and industries, two
27 representatives of organized labor, two representatives of business,
28 two representatives with experience in vocational or technical
29 education, and two public members, all appointed by the governor, and
30 one representative appointed by each of the majority and minority
31 leaders of the senate and the house of representatives, and who shall
32 each serve at the pleasure of his or her appointing authority.

33 (3) Responsibilities of the council include:

34 (a) Planning for the expansion and institutionalization of a state-
35 wide work-based learning system for youth;

36 (b) Ensuring that key state agencies, including the employment
37 security department, the department of labor and industries, and the
38 office of the superintendent of public instruction work cooperatively

1 and commit sufficient resources to build the work-based learning system
2 for youth;

3 (c) Reviewing state-wide competency standards for each work-based
4 learning program;

5 (d) Reviewing assessment standards for entrance, continuation, and
6 completion of work-based learning programs; and

7 (e) Making recommendations to state agencies regarding the
8 administration and operation of related education and training
9 programs.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** ADMINISTRATIVE AGENCY. (1) The office of
11 the superintendent of public instruction shall be the administrative
12 agency for the council. The office of the superintendent of public
13 instruction, in cooperation with local school districts, shall also
14 provide state-wide administrative oversight for the program.

15 (2) Administrative responsibilities for the office of the
16 superintendent of public instruction include:

17 (a) Approving occupation-specific competency standards developed in
18 concert with industry, labor, and vocational and technical education
19 professionals;

20 (b) Approving assessment standards for entrance, continuation, and
21 completion of work-based learning programs;

22 (c) Establishing the guidelines for the in-service education of
23 worksite mentors and supervisors and academic and vocational
24 instructors; and

25 (d) Supporting the activities of the school districts to minimize
26 duplication in the development of state-wide competency standards
27 developed in concert with labor, industry, and vocational and technical
28 educators.

29 (3) To carry out its administrative responsibilities, the
30 superintendent shall appoint a director of work-based learning programs
31 and shall provide whatever additional staff and resources are
32 necessary.

33 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** DUTIES OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS. (1) School
34 districts, in cooperation with representatives of industry and labor,
35 shall oversee local work-based learning programs and provide other
36 support to further work force development efforts within their local
37 communities.

1 (2) Duties of school districts include:

2 (a) Advocating and supporting the development of work-based
3 learning programs within the region consistent with labor market needs;

4 (b) Coordinating work-based learning programs operating within the
5 region;

6 (c) Creating working committees to conduct entrance and exit
7 assessments;

8 (d) Providing certification to the superintendent for those persons
9 who successfully complete work-based learning programs by meeting
10 established industry standards;

11 (e) Making recommendations to the superintendent for the
12 establishment of new work-based learning programs;

13 (f) Providing continued monitoring of functioning work-based
14 learning programs within the district to maintain quality standards for
15 instruction and training; and

16 (g) Providing recommendations to the council to improve related
17 work force development efforts, including, but not limited to:

18 (i) Methods to tailor work force training programs further to be
19 consistent with labor market needs;

20 (ii) New approaches to strengthen collaborative work force training
21 programs involving business, labor, and education organizations;

22 (iii) Critical analysis of existing job training programs to
23 identify where duplicative or ineffective programs are not maximizing
24 the use of existing resources; and

25 (iv) Further efforts to increase local involvement in all aspects
26 of the local delivery system for work force training and education.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** PROGRAM OPERATION. (1) Work-based learning
28 programs shall be operated by school districts in partnership with
29 industry and labor.

30 (2) Programs shall be established and operated within the following
31 program guidelines:

32 (a) Programs shall be established and continued based upon the
33 labor market needs of the industry.

34 (b) Employers shall be responsible for providing participating
35 youth with employment positions, a skilled mentor, a structured work
36 experience, and a stipend for the time the youth is at the worksite.
37 Compensation received shall never be less than the state minimum wage,
38 based upon the number of hours of actual work experience.

1 (c) No participating youth may displace a regular employee of a
2 participating employer.

3 (d) Programs shall be governed by a contract approved by the
4 participating youth, the youth's parent or legal guardian, the
5 participating employer, and an education representative.

6 (e) Participating youth shall be exempt from the standards
7 established under chapter 49.12 RCW governing the employment of minors.

8 (f) Completion of the program shall be determined by meeting state
9 industry competency standards as assessed by the school district.

10 (g) Instruction shall include a combination of classroom and actual
11 workplace learning. Workplace experience shall account for a minimum
12 of sixty percent of the total instruction provided over the life of the
13 work-based learning program. Yearly percentages may vary during the
14 program.

15 (h) Instruction shall include English, mathematics, natural
16 science, social science, fine arts, and craft training consistent with
17 assessment outcomes adopted by the superintendent.

18 (i) Actual instructional activities shall be determined locally by
19 program operators. Activities should emphasize work-based learning,
20 integrated academics, team teaching, and other strategies that will
21 permit the participating youth to meet the state industry competency
22 standards.

23 (j) Work-based learning programs may extend for as many as four
24 years.

25 (k) Students may enroll in work-based learning programs beginning
26 in grade eleven.

27 (l) Articulation agreements between secondary schools and
28 postsecondary institutions should be negotiated for the thirteenth and
29 fourteenth grades.

30 (m) Upon completion of the work-based learning program, each
31 student shall receive a diploma and a skill certificate. Graduates may
32 also receive an associate degree or other certifications dependent upon
33 their program.

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** ASSESSMENT. (1) Entrance, continuation, and
35 program completion shall include a variety of specific measures
36 approved by the school district.

1 (2) Entrance assessments shall include a review of past school
2 records, interviews, prerequisite studies related to the work-based
3 learning, and department.

4 (3) Continuation in the program shall be based upon a semiannual
5 review of the student's progress by a designated worksite supervisor
6 and a designated educator.

7 (4) Completion of the program shall be based upon meeting the state
8 industry standards as determined by examination procedures established
9 by the superintendent. Students who successfully complete the
10 apprenticeship program shall be certified to the superintendent for
11 receipt of a work-based learning skill certificate.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** STAFFING. (1) School-based educators shall
13 meet state certification requirements for their respective type of
14 school.

15 (2) Worksite supervisors shall meet the following requirements:

16 (a) A high level of competency in the required skills as certified
17 by the council; and

18 (b) Completion of an in-service education program consistent with
19 guidelines of the council.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 10.** Captions used in this act do not constitute
21 any part of the law.

22 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 11.** Sections 1 through 9 of this act shall
23 constitute a new chapter in Title 28C RCW.

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