

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT  
SUBSTITUTE SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 8404

61st Legislature  
2009 Regular Session

Passed by the Senate April 22, 2009  
YEAS 49 NAYS 0

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**President of the Senate**

Passed by the House April 9, 2009  
YEAS 98 NAYS 0

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**Speaker of the House of Representatives**

Approved

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**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

I, Thomas Hoemann, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 8404** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

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**Secretary**

FILED

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 8404**

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AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

Passed Legislature - 2009 Regular Session

**State of Washington**

**61st Legislature**

**2009 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Higher Education & Workforce Development (originally sponsored by Senators Kilmer, Jarrett, Hewitt, Delvin, Jacobsen, Shin, and Pflug; by request of Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board)

READ FIRST TIME 02/17/09.

1           WHEREAS, Chapter 238, Laws of 1991 created the workforce training  
2 and education coordinating board to provide planning, coordination,  
3 evaluation, monitoring, and policy analysis for the state training  
4 system as a whole and advice to the governor and legislature concerning  
5 the training system, in cooperation with the agencies that comprise the  
6 state training system and the higher education coordinating board; and

7           WHEREAS, Section 2, chapter 130, Laws of 1995 requires the board to  
8 update the state comprehensive plan for workforce training and  
9 education and requires the legislature, following public hearings, to  
10 approve or make changes to the updates; and

11           WHEREAS, The state faces the workforce challenges of: (1) Ensuring  
12 all Washington youth receive the education, training, and support they  
13 need for success in postsecondary education and/or work; (2) providing  
14 Washington adults, including those with barriers to education and  
15 employment, with access to lifelong education, training, and employment  
16 services; and (3) meeting the workforce needs of industry by preparing  
17 students, current workers, and dislocated workers with the skills  
18 employers need; and

19           WHEREAS, The state comprehensive plan for 2008 has a ten-year

1 horizon through 2018 and the following eight strategic opportunities on  
2 which to focus:

3 (1) Increase high school graduation rates and ensure youth are  
4 prepared for further education and/or work;

5 (2) Expand the availability of career pathways that span secondary  
6 and postsecondary education and training;

7 (3) Increase postsecondary education and training capacity to close  
8 the gap between the need of employers for skilled workers and the  
9 supply of Washington residents prepared to meet that need;

10 (4) Increase financial aid and support services for workforce  
11 education students to provide greater access to training and boost  
12 retention and completion;

13 (5) Increase adult basic skills and English language instruction  
14 that is integrated with occupational skills training to assist  
15 illiterate populations, immigrants, low-income workers, and unemployed  
16 individuals to improve their employment opportunities;

17 (6) Improve coordination between workforce and economic development  
18 in key economic clusters through initiatives such as Industry Skill  
19 Panels and Centers of Excellence;

20 (7) Meet employee education and training needs by providing  
21 transferrable skills that are generally marketable and lead to career  
22 advancement for low-skilled workers through employer and employee  
23 accountable customized training, workplace-based learning, flexible  
24 methods of education delivery, and cost-efficient new ways of funding  
25 employee training; and

26 (8) Identify barriers for improving and expanding employment,  
27 education, and training services and remove those barriers; and

28 WHEREAS, The state comprehensive plan includes: Assessments of our  
29 state's employment opportunities and skills needs, the present and  
30 future workforce, three goals, and more than sixty strategies for  
31 meeting the workforce challenges; and identifies entities responsible  
32 for carrying out the strategies; and

33 WHEREAS, The workforce training and education coordinating board  
34 used an inclusive process of work groups and public hearings and  
35 contact with approximately 3,500 individuals to develop consensus on  
36 the strategies identified in the plan and has secured the unanimous  
37 endorsement of critical constituencies, including business, labor, and  
38 the agencies delivering workforce services; and

1       WHEREAS, The provisions of the comprehensive plan and its updates  
2 that are approved by the legislature become the state's workforce  
3 policy unless legislation is enacted to alter the policies set forth  
4 therein; and

5       WHEREAS, The legislature recommends that the next update to the  
6 2008-2018 state comprehensive plan for workforce training, "High  
7 Skills, High Wages," include an emphasis upon jobs that build the green  
8 economy and a strong focus on making Washington a global leader in  
9 technology and manufacturing for the renewable energy industry;

10       NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Senate of the state of  
11 Washington, the House of Representatives concurring, hereby approve the  
12 2008-2018 state comprehensive plan for workforce training, "High  
13 Skills, High Wages."

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