
SENATE BILL 5754

State of Washington

63rd Legislature

2013 Regular Session

By Senators Litzow, McAuliffe, Kohl-Welles, Conway, and Kline; by request of Governor Inslee

Read first time 02/13/13. Referred to Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to integrated career learning opportunities and
2 employment training for at-risk youth; adding a new section to chapter
3 28C.18 RCW; and adding a new section to chapter 28A.700 RCW.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 28C.18 RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 (1) Subject to funds appropriated for this purpose, the ASSET
8 program is established to increase connections and access to work-
9 integrated learning opportunities, particularly in STEM fields. The
10 program is also intended to provide forums in local communities for the
11 exchange of ideas, innovations, and expertise among local businesses,
12 labor organizations, public schools, apprenticeship councils, and
13 institutions of higher education. The board shall administer the
14 program.

15 (2) In administering the ASSET program, the board, in collaboration
16 with business and labor organizations as well as state education and
17 workforce agencies, shall:

18 (a) Develop technical assistance materials to guide employers in
19 the design and implementation of work-integrated learning opportunities

1 and programs that assist employers in navigating the legal and
2 regulatory environment related to employment of youth and placement of
3 youth at employer worksites;

4 (b) Develop technical assistance materials to guide schools in the
5 design and implementation of work-integrated learning opportunities and
6 programs that assist schools in encouraging students to explore work-
7 integrated opportunities and to select appropriate work-integrated
8 learning opportunities and maximizing their experience;

9 (c) Conduct a statewide communications campaign to encourage
10 employers, particularly in STEM fields, to offer work-integrated
11 learning opportunities for students, encourage schools to work with
12 local businesses to develop work-integrated learning opportunities, and
13 encourage parents and students to seek out work-integrated learning
14 opportunities;

15 (d) Develop a web-based matching and communications system,
16 accessible to schools and individual students, for employers to post
17 work-integrated learning opportunities. The system must also provide
18 access to the technical assistance materials for employers, schools,
19 and students developed under this section; and

20 (e) Designate workforce development councils as regional
21 coordinators for the ASSET program through a competitive application
22 process. The purpose of the designation is to establish a single point
23 of contact for voluntary local coordination, reduce duplication of
24 effort, achieve economies of scale, and create opportunities for
25 successful grant seeking.

26 (3) Regional program coordinators must:

27 (a) Serve as a clearinghouse for summer and year-round youth
28 employment and other work-integrated learning opportunities for
29 students in the region;

30 (b) In collaboration with business and labor organizations,
31 actively recruit employers to provide work-integrated learning
32 opportunities, particularly in STEM fields, for youth and participating
33 schools;

34 (c) Disseminate technical assistance materials developed under
35 subsection (2)(a) of this section to interested employers;

36 (d) Work with public schools, institutions of higher education,
37 apprenticeship and preapprenticeship programs, and workforce training

1 programs to develop internship, mentoring, and advising opportunities
2 for public school students by individuals in the local business and
3 labor communities;

4 (e) Encourage the use of the web-based matching and communications
5 system for work-integrated learning opportunities developed under
6 subsection (2)(d) of this section; and

7 (f) Report annually to the board data required to complete
8 subsection (4) of this section.

9 (4) The board, in consultation with the office of the
10 superintendent of public instruction, shall design and implement a
11 performance monitoring system to track the outcomes of the ASSET
12 program. As of December 2014, the board shall submit an annual
13 performance report on the program to the appropriate committees of the
14 legislature and the governor.

15 (5) For the purposes of this section, "work-integrated learning
16 opportunities" include but are not limited to:

17 (a) Paid and unpaid internships that provide sustained work and
18 learning experiences;

19 (b) Paid and unpaid work experience;

20 (c) Youth apprenticeships and preapprenticeships;

21 (d) Advising from employers and workers related to student projects
22 or programs of study;

23 (e) Simulated or virtual workplace experiences and enterprises;

24 (f) Visits to worksites to learn about employers, occupations, job
25 skills, or other work-related issues;

26 (g) Mentoring that provides professional input to a student's
27 career pathway; and

28 (h) Job shadowing related to a student's career pathway.

29 (6) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this
30 section.

31 (a) "ASSET program" means the alliance for student success in
32 education and training program.

33 (b) "Institutions of higher education" or "postsecondary
34 institutions" has the definition in RCW 28B.10.016.

35 (c) "Public schools" has the definition in RCW 28A.150.010.

36 (d) "State education and workforce agencies" means the office of
37 the superintendent of public instruction, the state board of education,
38 the state board for community and technical colleges, the student

1 achievement council, the Washington state school directors'
2 association, the workforce training and education coordinating board,
3 and the employment security department.

4 (e) "STEM" means science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

5 (f) "Youth" means a person age twenty-four or younger.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.700
7 RCW to read as follows:

8 (1) Subject to funds appropriated for this purpose, the office of
9 the superintendent of public instruction shall allocate grants to a
10 minimum of two high schools and one skill center to each implement a
11 dropout reengagement program aligned with entry into a high-demand
12 occupation. The office of the superintendent of public instruction
13 shall establish program guidelines and criteria for grant application
14 and administration. Beginning in December 2014, an annual report
15 summarizing student participation and outcomes shall be submitted to
16 the appropriate committees of the legislature and the governor by
17 December of each year.

18 (2) Grant recipients must agree to:

19 (a) Adhere to principles established by the superintendent's career
20 and technical education program focused on at-risk secondary students;

21 (b) Target program enrollment to youth under age nineteen who are
22 not enrolled in high school and have not earned a high school diploma,
23 or students currently enrolled who are highly likely to exit high
24 school without earning a high school diploma;

25 (c) Provide academic instruction for participants to earn a high
26 school diploma or equivalent;

27 (d) Provide training for the student to earn an entry-level
28 certificate in a high-demand employment field in science, math,
29 technology, engineering, or manufacturing as provided in RCW
30 28A.700.020; and

31 (e) Collect and report student participation and completion data to
32 the office of the superintendent of public instruction.

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