
HOUSE BILL 2948

State of Washington 64th Legislature 2016 Regular Session

By Representatives Santos, Pike, Magendanz, Stanford, and Pollet

Read first time 02/01/16. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to increasing the career and college readiness of
2 students; adding a new section to chapter 28A.630 RCW; adding new
3 sections to chapter 28C.18 RCW; creating a new section; and providing
4 expiration dates.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that high school
7 programs that combine academic and technical curricula around a
8 career theme and that establish partnerships with local employers to
9 provide work-integrated and career-related learning opportunities
10 produce higher earnings gains for students who complete the programs
11 than for students who do not complete the programs.

12 (2) Creating opportunities for students to have work-integrated
13 experiences during high school can produce substantial and sustained
14 improvements in the labor market and improve the students'
15 transitions to adulthood.

16 (3) Therefore, the legislature intends to increase the career and
17 college readiness of high school students in Washington by
18 establishing the career and college-ready lighthouse pilot project
19 and advisory committee to inform the legislature about the best
20 practices in work-integrated and career-related instructional
21 programs and the barriers to statewide adoption of these programs.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.630

2 RCW to read as follows:

3 (1) Subject to funds appropriated specifically for this purpose,
4 the career and college-ready lighthouse pilot project is established.
5 The purpose of the pilot project is to provide an opportunity for
6 students to:

7 (a) Explore and understand a wide range of career opportunities
8 through applied learning;

9 (b) Engage with industry mentors; and

10 (c) Plan for career and college success.

11 (2) The advisory committee established under section 3 of this
12 act must select, in cooperation with the office of the superintendent
13 of public instruction:

14 (a) Two innovative high schools to act as lighthouse mentors: One
15 with an aviation theme and a solid partnership with the aviation
16 industry, and one with a health and bioscience theme and a solid
17 partnership with the health and bioscience industries;

18 (b) Four schools seeking to pilot innovative work-integrated and
19 career-related instructional programs similar to those offered by the
20 lighthouse mentors: One in southwest Washington, one in central
21 Washington, one in Eastern Washington, and one in the Seattle area of
22 the Puget Sound region.

23 (3)(a) Beginning in the 2017-18 school year, the pilot schools
24 selected under subsection (2) of this section must implement a
25 science, technology, engineering, and mathematics curriculum,
26 developed in collaboration with the lighthouse mentors and the
27 advisory committee, that can be delivered in the context of
28 employment opportunities in one or more industry clusters, including
29 manufacturing, building and construction, aerospace and maritime, and
30 health and bioscience.

31 (b) The three main features of the instructional program are:

32 (i) An external mentor for each student;

33 (ii) Academic curricula delivered in a work-integrated and
34 career-related manner; and

35 (iii) Opportunities for work-integrated learning experiences,
36 prioritizing paid internship and apprenticeship opportunities.

37 (4) The schools selected as lighthouses under this section must
38 serve as resources and examples of how to deliver academic content in
39 a project-based career-related manner, as well as best practices for
40 connecting students to external mentors, and offering work-integrated

1 learning experiences in partnership with industry and community
2 members.

3 (5) By August 1, 2018, and August 1, 2019, the school district
4 selected to participate under subsection (2) of this section must
5 submit to the workforce training and education coordinating board an
6 interim and end-of-project report, respectively, that includes an
7 evaluation of the effect of the instructional program on high school
8 graduation rates, state test scores, industry and community
9 partnerships, work-integrated learning experiences, and any other
10 relevant data.

11 (6) This section expires July 1, 2020.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 28C.18
13 RCW to read as follows:

14 (1) The board shall convene a career and college readiness
15 advisory committee to advise the education and workforce sectors, and
16 the legislature, on how to create opportunities for students to:
17 Explore and understand a wide range of career-related opportunities
18 through applied learning, engage with industry mentors, and plan for
19 career and college success.

20 (2) The committee shall:

21 (a) Select, in cooperation with the office of the superintendent
22 of public instruction, schools to act as lighthouse mentors and
23 schools to pilot science, technology, engineering, and mathematics
24 curricula that can be delivered in the context of employment
25 opportunities in one or more industry clusters, as required under
26 section 2 of this act;

27 (b) Advise the superintendent of public instruction and school
28 districts on the development and implementation of work-integrated
29 instructional programs;

30 (c) Evaluate the instructional programs of the lighthouse and
31 pilot schools, as required under section 4 of this act, using data
32 and methodology guidance from the board; and

33 (d) Recommend policies to implement work-integrated and career-
34 related strategies that increase college and career readiness of
35 students statewide.

36 (3) The committee must consult with individuals from the public
37 and private sector with expertise in career and technical education
38 and work-integrated training, including representatives of labor

1 unions, professional technical organizations, and business and
2 industry.

3 (4) The committee must, at a minimum, be composed of the
4 following members:

5 (a) The majority and minority leaders of the senate shall each
6 appoint one member from the relevant caucuses of the senate;

7 (b) One member from each of the two largest caucuses of the house
8 of representatives, appointed by the speaker of the house of
9 representatives;

10 (c) One educator representing the K-12 career and technical
11 education sector appointed by the superintendent of public
12 instruction;

13 (d) One school counselor appointed by the superintendent of
14 public instruction, based on the recommendations of the school
15 counselor association;

16 (e) One educator representing the community and technical
17 colleges appointed by the state board for community and technical
18 colleges;

19 (f) One member of the governor's office specializing in career
20 and technical education and workforce needs, appointed by the
21 governor;

22 (g) One member of the workforce training and education
23 coordinating board; and

24 (h) Other members with specialized expertise, determined by the
25 committee.

26 (5) The chair or cochairs of the committee must be selected by
27 the members of the committee.

28 (6) Staff support for the committee must be provided by the
29 board.

30 (7) The committee shall report its findings, including a review
31 of the evaluation of the instructional programs, required under
32 section 4 of this act, and an analysis of barriers to statewide
33 adoption of work-integrated and career-related learning opportunities
34 and instructional programs, and recommendations to the superintendent
35 of public instruction, the appropriate committees of the legislature,
36 and the state board for community and technical colleges by November
37 1, 2019, in accordance with RCW 43.01.036.

38 (8) This section expires July 1, 2020.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 28C.18
2 RCW to read as follows:

3 (1)(a) The board, in consultation with the advisory group created
4 under section 3 of this act, must use the reports submitted under
5 section 2(5) of this act, along with historical data from those
6 schools, to evaluate the instructional programs of the lighthouse and
7 pilot schools selected under section 2 of this act, to determine:

8 (i) The impact on in-school progress, high school graduation
9 rates, and other indicators of career and college readiness, both
10 overall and in reducing opportunity gaps;

11 (ii) Best practices for partnering with industry and the local
12 community to create opportunities for applied learning through
13 internships, apprenticeships, and mentorships; and

14 (iii) Ways to link high school and beyond plans to work-
15 integrated and career-related learning opportunities.

16 (b) The evaluation must be completed in time for the results to
17 be reviewed and incorporated into the report of the advisory
18 committee required under section 3 of this act.

19 (2) This section expires July 1, 2020.

--- END ---