

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5731**

60th Legislature  
2007 Regular Session

Passed by the Senate April 16, 2007  
YEAS 46 NAYS 1

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**President of the Senate**

Passed by the House April 11, 2007  
YEAS 97 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 BILL 5731** 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 BILL 5731**

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AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

Passed Legislature - 2007 Regular Session

**State of Washington                      60th Legislature                      2007 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Committee on Higher Education (originally sponsored by Senators Shin, Delvin, Berkey, Sheldon, Tom, Oemig, Rasmussen, Pridemore, Roach, Jacobsen and Kohl-Welles)

READ FIRST TIME 02/20/07.

1            AN ACT Relating to educating students in high demand fields;  
2            creating new sections; and providing an expiration date.

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

4            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.**    The state of Washington leads the nation in  
5            providing employment for people with baccalaureate degrees, but only  
6            ranks thirty-sixth in the nation in the production of degrees.  
7            Beginning in 2007 it is estimated that for job openings in Washington  
8            that require a bachelor's degree, forty-seven percent will be in fields  
9            identified as high demand or high impact, but that only fourteen  
10           percent of Washington students each year graduate with degrees in one  
11           of these fields.    Washington ranks among the top ten states in  
12           scientists and computer specialists employed per capita and leads the  
13           nation in engineers employed per capita, but must import employees to  
14           meet employer demands.    Additionally, Washington does not produce a  
15           sufficient number of newly prepared workers in areas that require more  
16           than one year but less than four years of higher education.    The in-  
17           state supply at this mid-level of education and training is sufficient  
18           to fill only eighty-three percent of employer job openings that require  
19           that level of training.    Therefore, the legislature finds that

1 Washington needs to produce eight to ten thousand additional  
2 baccalaureate degrees per year so that Washington employers will not  
3 have to look out of state to find employees. The legislature further  
4 finds that Washington needs to enroll over fourteen thousand additional  
5 students at the mid-level of education and training in order to meet  
6 employer demand.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) A committee on the education of students  
8 in high demand fields is established to:

9 (a) Develop a plan to increase the number of baccalaureate degrees  
10 granted by Washington institutions of higher education by ten thousand  
11 per year and to significantly increase the number of certificates and  
12 associate degrees granted by 2020 with a special emphasis directed  
13 toward high impact, high demand areas of study;

14 (b) Develop a marketing project to inform students, parents, and  
15 educators of opportunities in high demand fields;

16 (c) Investigate ways to motivate students to take more mathematics  
17 and science courses in high school and college; and

18 (d) Identify ways that the business community can enter into more  
19 partnerships with the state to ensure that Washington institutions of  
20 higher education produce graduates in high demand fields that are ready  
21 and able to find employment in Washington.

22 (2) The committee shall be cochaired by a member of the house of  
23 representatives and a member of the senate. It shall consist of:

24 (a) Two members of the house of representatives, appointed by the  
25 speaker of the house of representatives;

26 (b) Two members of the senate, with one appointed by each major  
27 caucus of the senate;

28 (c) One person representing the higher education coordinating  
29 board, appointed by the director of the board;

30 (d) One person representing the state board for community and  
31 technical colleges, appointed by the director of the state board;

32 (e) One person representing the state workforce training and  
33 education coordinating board, appointed by the director of the board;

34 (f) One person representing the office of the superintendent of  
35 public instruction, appointed by the superintendent of public  
36 instruction;

1 (g) One person representing each of the following, appointed by the  
2 governor:

3 (i) The labor council;

4 (ii) The council of presidents;

5 (iii) The prosperity partnership;

6 (iv) The council of faculty representatives; and

7 (v) One employer of persons in high demand fields; and

8 (h) A graduate student member of the Washington student lobby,  
9 appointed by the governor.

10 (3) The committee shall receive staff and logistical support from  
11 senate committee services and the office of program research.

12 (4) The committee shall report its findings and recommendations to  
13 appropriate committees of the legislature by December 1, 2007.

14 (5) This section expires December 31, 2007.

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