

WORKFORCE-RELATED BILLS - Passed Legislature
2010 Session and I' Extra Session
Status As of April 13

Youth-Related

E2SHB 1418 - Dropout Retrieval - Prime Sponsor: Rep. Kagi

Directs the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction to develop model contracts and inter-local agreements for school districts to use in contracting with community and technical colleges, community-based organizations, or other entities to deliver dropout re-engagement programs.

Authorizes but does not require school districts to offer dropout reengagement programs using the model contracts and inter-local agreements. If a school district does not enter an interlocal agreement or contract with an educational service district, community or technical college, other public entity, or community-based organization to provide a dropout reengagement program for eligible students residing in the district, the educational service district, community or technical college, other public entity, or community-based organization may petition a school district other than the resident school district to enroll the eligible students under the "Choice" laws and enter the interlocal agreement or contract with the petitioning entity to provide a dropout reengagement program for the eligible students.

Defines dropout re-engagement programs as including academic instruction that generates high school credits, college and work readiness preparation, and case management. Defines eligible students as being at least 16 but less than 21, not accumulating sufficient credits to graduate by the age of 21, or recommended by the social service or juvenile justice system, and enrolled in either their resident district or a nonresident district through the state's "Choice" laws.

Status: Enacted as Chapter 20, Laws of 2010

HB 2621 - STEM High Schools - Prime Sponsor: Rep. Orwall

Supports continued expansion of the type of innovation and creativity displayed by Aviation High School, Delta High School, and the science and math institute at Point Defiance by designating so-called "lighthouse" high schools to serve as resources and examples of best practices in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics instruction.

Directs the Superintendent of Public Instruction to designate up to three high schools and up to three middle schools to serve as resources and examples of how to combine: (1) A small, highly personalized learning community; (2) An interdisciplinary curriculum with a strong focus on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics delivered through a project-based instructional approach; and (3) Active partnerships with businesses and the local community to connect learning beyond the classroom. Requires the designated schools to have proven experience and be recognized as offering model programs in STEM instruction.

Status: Enacted as Chapter 238, Laws of 2010

SHB 2776 - K12 Funding Formulas - Prime Sponsor: Rep. Sullivan

Sets forth in statute numeric values in the prototypical school funding formula adopted in 2009, for average class size, allocations of building-level staff, supplemental instruction for categorical programs, central office administration, and allocations for maintenance, supplies, and operating costs (MSOC), all to take effect September 1, 2011.

Reduces the class size for grades K-3, during the 2011-2013 biennium and beginning with schools with the highest percentage of students eligible for free and reduced-price meals in the prior school year, until the average class size) is no more than 17.0 full-time equivalent students per teacher beginning in the 2017-18 school year.

Establishes class size for approved career and technical education offered at the middle school and high school level at 26.57 full-time equivalent students per teacher and, for skill center programs at 22.76 full-time equivalent students per teacher.

Funding for guidance counselors, a function that includes parent outreach and graduation advising, is set at 0.493 for an elementary school (400 FTEs in grades 1-6), 1.116 for a middle school (432 FTES in grades 7 and 8), and 1.909 for a high school (600 FTEs in grades 9-12).

Requires an adjustment for inflation in MSOC beginning in the allocations to be phased in beginning in 2013-15 biennium.

Requires continued incremental phase-in of full-day kindergarten starting in the 2011-13 biennium, with full statewide implementation by 2017-18.

Implements a new funding formula for pupil transportation to begin no later than the 2011-2013 biennium and be fully implemented by the 2013-2015 biennium.

Adopts an implementation schedule for phasing-in enhancements to the baseline funding Directs the Quality Education Council (QEC) to submit a report to the governor and the legislature by December 1, 2010, that includes:

- (a) Recommendations for specific strategies, programs, and funding, including funding allocations through the funding distribution formula that are designed to close the achievement gap and increase the high school graduation rate in Washington public schools. The QEC must consult with the Achievement Gap Oversight and Accountability Committee and the Building Bridges Work Group in developing its recommendations

Directs the Washington State Institute for Public Policy to calculate an annual estimate of the savings to taxpayers resulting from any improvement compared to the prior school year in the extended graduation rate.

Status: Enacted as Chapter 236, Laws of 2010

ESHB 2913 - Innovation Academy Cooperatives - Prime Sponsor: Rep. Haigh

Permits nonhigh school districts to form an interdistrict cooperative, to offer an innovation academy cooperative for high school students residing in the participating nonhigh school districts.

Defines an innovation academy cooperative is a high school program with one or more of the following characteristics: (a) interdisciplinary curriculum and instruction organized into subject-focused themes or academies; (b) a combination of instructional service delivery models; (c) intensive and accelerated learning to enable students to complete high school credits in a short time period; and (d) creative scheduling and use of existing school or community facilities.

Status: Enacted as Chapter 99, Laws of 2010

ESSB 6403 - Dropout Accountability - Prime Sponsor: Sen. Kauffman

Creates a definition for a "K-12 dropout prevention, intervention, and reengagement system."

Directs the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) to develop and report recommendations to the Quality Education Council (QEC) and the Legislature for the development of a comprehensive, K-12 dropout reduction initiative designed to integrate multiple

tiers of dropout prevention, intervention, and technical assistance provided through federal and state programs and to support a K-12 dropout prevention, intervention, and reengagement system.

Changes the composition of the work group is changed to add representatives from the Department of Early Learning, the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges, and the Community Mobilization Office, and specific Divisions of the Department of Social and Health Services and directs the various state agencies represented on the work group to collaborate on the dropout issue.

The annual report to the Legislature and the Governor that is currently required of the Building Bridges work group must also be provided to the QEC and must include proposed strategies for building dropout prevention, intervention, and re-engagement systems in local communities. In addition, the Building Bridges work group must report to the QEC, the Legislature, and the Governor, by September 15, 2010, on:

- recommended state goals and annual targets for the percentage of students graduating from high school;
- recommended state goals and annual targets for the percentage of youth who have dropped out who should be re-engaged;
- recommended funding for career guidance and drop-out prevention and intervention systems and a plan for phasing the formulas into the program of basic education; and
- a plan for phasing in the expansion of the current school improvement planning program to include state-funded technical assistance for districts in significant need of improvement regarding high school graduation rates.

By December 1, 2010, new recommendations from the work group are due to the Legislature and the Governor regarding a state-level and regional infrastructure for coordinating services for vulnerable youth.

Directs the Washington State Institute for Public Policy to calculate a savings from improvement in graduation rates and requires OSPI to publish this in an annual report.

Status: Enacted as Chapter 243, Laws of 2010

E2SSB 6696 - Education Reform - Prime Sponsor: Sen. McAuliffe

Provides a new authority and process for the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) and the State Board of Education (SBE) to enact an accountability system that recognizes successful schools and requires certain actions by school districts in which the lowest 5 percent of persistently low-achieving schools are located.

Creates a new classroom teacher and principal four-level rating evaluation system with specified minimum criteria. Expands supplemental contracts by authorizing the inclusion of innovation activities, if focused on the achievement gaps; and science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).

Authorizes the Professional Educator Standards Board (PESB) to begin accepting proposals for new providers, including community colleges and non-higher education providers, for the alternative teacher certification programs.

Authorizes OSPI to revise the EALRs by provisionally adopting a common set of standards by August 2, 2010. Stipulates that OSPI cannot implement the provisionally adopted standards until the Education Committees have an opportunity for review.

Status: Enacted as Chapter 235, Laws of 2010

Adult-Related

E2SHB 2630 - Worker Retraining and Workforce - Prime Sponsor: Rep. Probst

Requires that colleges give priority in the use of Worker Retraining funds to programs in aerospace, health care, long-term care, advanced manufacturing, construction, renewable energy industries, forest products, and high-demand occupations in strategic industry clusters as identified by the state and local comprehensive workforce development plans developed by the Workforce Education and Training Coordinating Board and the local Workforce Development Councils.

Encourages the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges to develop a single website for the purpose of advertising the availability of funding for the Worker Retraining, Opportunity Grant, Opportunity Internship programs, training programs approved by the commissioner of the Employment Security Department, training programs prioritized by industry, and training programs administered by labor and management partnerships. Creates the Opportunity Express Account and stipulates that funding may be used for certain training programs and administrative costs up to \$88,844,000.

Status: Delivered to the Governor

SHB 2684 - Seattle Opportunity Center - Prime Sponsor: Rep. Kenney

Establishes an opportunity employment and education center within the Seattle Community College District. The Center will house various educational and social service providers that will integrate access to employment, counseling, and public benefit programs as well as education, training, financial aid, and counseling offered through community colleges. The Center is additionally responsible for jointly developing evaluation criteria with the SBCTC. By December 1, 2010, the SBCTC must make recommendations on the location of a new Center. If future Centers are created, they will be governed by the Workgroup.

Status: Enacted as Chapter 40, Laws of 2010

E2SHB 2782 - Security Lifeline Act - Prime Sponsor: Rep. Dickerson

Directs the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) to serve as the executive branch sponsor of the Opportunity Portal. Directs DSHS to develop a plan for implementing paperless application processes for the services included in the Opportunity Portal. implementation, outcomes, and use of the portal. The first report is due on December 1, 2011.

Directs DHS, the Employment Security Department (ESD), and the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges must work in a partnership to expand the Food Stamp Program. The Program will be expanded to three additional community colleges in 2010 and will expand capacity of the 12 currently participating colleges. The agencies working in partnership must seek out community organizations that can provide support services and case management to participants in the Program, and they must identify funds with which to draw down federal matching funds for employment and training services.

Authorizes employment and training funds to be allocated for skill development for employment, vocational education, English as a second language, job readiness, tuition, housing, counseling, transportation, and other services.

The General Assistance Program is renamed the Disability Lifeline Program. After January 1, 2011, all disability lifeline benefits recipients must be assessed to determine whether they would likely benefit from a program offered by the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR).

Directs the Department of Commerce to designate 3 percent of its current and future housing construction contracts for the housing needs of homeless Disability Lifeline Benefits recipients.

Status: Enacted as Chapter 8, Laws of 2010, 1st Extra Session

E2SHB 3141 - Redesign of TANF Program - Prime Sponsor: Rep. Kagi

The primary goal of the TANF program is economic self-sufficiency for families through unsubsidized employment. The WorkFirst job search requirements are modified to require consideration of the applicant's marketable job skills, attachment to the labor force, and level of education or training when determining the length of time job search is required. The TANF wage subsidy program is named the Community Jobs Program. The WorkFirst subcabinet will collaborate with the Governor and reevaluate the WorkFirst program considering research relating to family economic self-sufficiency and completion of adequate training and education programs. The subcabinet will develop a proposal for the Legislature to redesign the state's use of the TANF funding in a manner that makes optimum use of all funds available to promote more families moving out of poverty to sustainable self-sufficiency. The proposal is due December 1, 2010.

Beginning in Fiscal Year 2011, for families with children enrolled in the Early Childhood Education Assistance Program (ECEAP), Head Start, or Early Head Start, the subsidy authorization will be valid for 12 months unless a change in circumstances requires a reauthorization sooner.

Status: Enacted as Chapter 273, Laws of 2010

SSB 6355 - Applied Baccalaureate Expansion (Expand on Demand) - Prime Sponsor: Sen. Kilmer

The applied baccalaureate degree is no longer a pilot project. The limitation on the number of applied baccalaureate degree programs is eliminated. Community and technical colleges may apply to SBCTC to develop and offer applied baccalaureate degree programs after approval by SBCTC and the HECB.

Proposed changes in the missions of institutions of higher education may be identified by the HECB, any public institution or by a state or local government. A mission change is defined as a change that allows an institution of higher education to offer a new level of degree not currently authorized in statute. Major expansion means expansion of the system that requires significant new capital investment and would result in a mission change. Mission changes and major expansions are subject to approval by the HECB. The HECB's recommendations to proceed with the proposed change, proceed with modifications, or not proceed are presented to the Legislature and the Governor.

The HECB is identified as the lead entity for the innovation and quality in higher education programs and makes awards in collaboration with SBCTC and other local and regional entities. Grants may be awarded to state public or private nonprofit institutions of higher education or consortia of institutions. The two-year time limitation, of incentive grants is eliminated. Washington Fund for Innovation and Quality grants may be used for development of educational technology and accelerated academic programs.

The HECB is required to rank major capital projects at four-year institutions in a single list by priority order. The University of Washington is authorized to use alternative contracting methods for highly specialized medical spaces. The HECB is required to consider the strategic and operational use of technology as part of the needs assessment process.

Status: Enacted as Chapter 245, Laws of 2010

SSB 6357 - Academic Credit for Experience - Prime Sponsor: Sen. Kilmer

The College Board, in consultation with the Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB), the Council of Presidents, the Workforce Board, representatives from Washington institutions of higher education, representatives from two- and four-year faculty, representatives from private career schools, and representatives from business and labor must develop policies for awarding academic credit for prior learning from work and military experience, military and law enforcement training, career college training, internships and externships, and apprenticeships. The policies must address, but are not limited to, issues regarding verification, accreditation, and transfer of academic credit, licensing and professional recognition, and financial aid.

Status: Enacted as Chapter 71, Laws of 2010

ESSB 6359 - Community College Consolidation - Prime Sponsor: Sen. Kilmer

The SBCTC and individual college governing boards, involving faculty and staff union representatives, must identify potential administrative efficiencies, complementary administrative functions, and complementary academic programs in colleges within a regional area and must identify, develop, and adopt plans for the implementation of any changes to ensure that they meet specified criteria.

Colleges are also to consider greater flexibility for students to transfer credits and obtain degrees and certificates from other colleges within the region. Cost savings are retained by the college districts to enhance student access and success. A preliminary progress report must be submitted to the appropriate legislative committees and to the Governor by December 2010. A final report is due by December 2011.

SBCTC, in consultation with boards of trustees at the colleges, establishes criteria and procedures for consolidating district structures to form multiple campus districts. In the event that educational programs are identified for consolidation, the SBCTC is required to convene faculty and staff to help in developing consolidation plans that would impact their programs and collective bargaining agreements. Primary consideration is given to how proposed changes would affect student access, full-time faculty recruitment, development, and retention, academic programs, and the expected financial efficiencies. By December 2012, the College Board must evaluate any proposed district consolidations or boundary changes.

Status: enacted as Chapter 246, Laws of 2010

E2SSB 6409 - Opportunity Pathways Account - Prime Sponsor: Sen. Kastama

Creates the Washington Opportunity Pathways Account. Beginning in state fiscal year 2011, all net revenues from in-state lottery games that are not otherwise dedicated to debt service on the Safeco Stadium and Qwest Field and Exhibition Center are dedicated to the new account. All net income from the multi-state lottery games, other than those dedicated to the Problem Gambling Account, are deposited into the Washington Opportunity Pathways Account rather than into the General Fund.

The Washington Opportunity Pathways Account is subject to appropriation by the Legislature, and may only be used for the following programs: recruitment of entrepreneurial researchers, innovation partnership zones, and research teams; the early childhood education and assistance program (ECEAP); the State Need Grant; the State Work Study program; College Bound Scholarships; Washington Promise Scholarships; Washington Scholars; the Washington Award for Vocational Excellence (WAVE); the Passport to College Promise; the Educational Opportunity Grant; and GET Ready for Math & Science Scholarships.

Each year beginning in fiscal year 2011, \$102 million is transferred from the state General Fund to the Education Construction Account.

Status: Delivered to the Governor

ESSB 6582 - Nursing Assistant Credentialing - Prime Sponsor: Sen. Keiser

Directs the Washington Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission to adopt criteria for evaluating an applicant's alternative training to determine the applicant's eligibility to take a qualifying examination for nursing assistant certification. Rules must be developed by the commission by July 1, 2011, in consultation with the secretary, the Department of Social and Health Services, and representatives of consumers, employers, and workers. The secretary is to report annually beginning December 1, 2012, to the Governor and the Legislature on progress made in achieving career advancement for certified home care aides and medical assistants into nursing practice.

Status: Enacted as Chapter 169, Laws of 2010

Industry-Related

SHB 2420 - Forestry Green Jobs - Prime Sponsor: Rep. Kenney

The Employment Security Department must conduct a forest products industry study to determine key growth factors, employment projections, education, and skill standards for current and emerging green occupations.

The Workforce Training Board must include business representatives from industry sectors related to clean energy, including energy derived from wood biomass, liquid biofuels, or bio-based products on its green industry skill panels.

As part of the Evergreen Jobs Initiative, the Department of Commerce and the Workforce Training Board must identify barriers to the growth of green jobs in traditional industries.

Status: Enacted as Chapter 187, Laws of 2010

EHB 2561 - Jobs Act Bonds - Prime Sponsor; Rep. Dunshee

Authorizes the State Finance Committee to issue general obligation bonds, known as the Jobs Act Bonds, in the amount of \$505 million to create jobs by constructing capital improvements to public facilities for energy costs savings.

Directs the Department of Commerce, in consultation with the GA and Washington State University's (WSU) Energy Program, to administer the Jobs Act.

Makes an appropriation in the amount of \$500 million for grants to public K-12 schools, public higher education institutions for energy cost savings improvements and related projects that result in energy and utility and operational cost savings. Related projects are projects that must be completed in order for the energy efficiency improvement to be effective.

The Department of Commerce and the GA must report to the Legislature and the Office of Financial Management on the timing and use of the grant funds and program administration functions and fees by the end of each fiscal year.

The title, intent, and bond authorization proposal is referred to a vote of the people at the next general election. The temporary sales tax on bottled water would be made permanent to pay the debt service costs for the bonds, unless the voters do not ratify the bond referendum.

Status: Delivered to the Governor

SHB 2651- Port District Job Training - Prime Sponsor: Rep. Upthegrove

Authorizes ports to sponsor certain job training and placement programs, preapprenticeship training, or educational programs that are operated by nonprofit entities and already in existence.

Requires the operating entity to submit annually specified program outcome information to the sponsoring port.

Status: Enacted as Chapter 195, Laws of 2010

E2SHB 2658 - Dept. of Commerce Reorganization - Prime Sponsor: Rep. Kenney

Directs the Department of Commerce to establish certain divisions and to transfer certain programs to better streamline the Department's job creation and innovation facilitation functions.

Requires the Department of Commerce to provide business assistance and economic development services through sector-based, cluster-based, and regional partners. Requires the Department to examine agricultural commodity commissions as a model for self-financing systems for addressing industry identified needs.

Requires the Department of Commerce to develop an updated energy strategy, with an implementation report due by December 1, 2010.

Status: Enacted as Chapter 271, Laws of 2010

2SSB 6667 - Business Assistance Center - Prime Sponsor: Sen. Kauffman

Subject to appropriation, the Department of Commerce and the Small Business Development Center must jointly prepare an actionable plan for increased access to capital and technical assistance beginning with the 20 11-13 biennium.

Status: Enacted as Chapter 165, Laws of 2010