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HOUSE BILL 1943

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State of Washington

67th Legislature

2022 Regular Session

By Representatives Entenman and Boehnke; by request of State Board for Community and Technical Colleges

1 AN ACT Relating to including certain residents who do not have a  
2 high school diploma or credential and the number of students expected  
3 to enroll in basic education for adults courses at community and  
4 technical colleges in caseload forecast council forecasting; amending  
5 RCW 43.88C.010 and 43.88C.050; and creating a new section.

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

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that:

8 (a) Nearly three-fourths of available jobs in this state require  
9 at least a postsecondary credential and that meeting this workforce  
10 need requires educating older adults who lack basic education skills;

11 (b) A large number of Washington adults, possibly more than  
12 700,000, lack the knowledge and skills needed to compete in today's  
13 economy and meaningfully participate in this state's democracy;

14 (c) It is necessary to educate older adults who lack basic  
15 education skills to meet the state's educational attainment goals  
16 that all adults in the state ages 18 to 44 have a high school diploma  
17 or equivalent by 2023 and at least 70 percent of Washington adults  
18 ages 18 to 44 will have a postsecondary credential by 2023;

19 (d) The community and technical colleges are responsible for  
20 providing basic skills and literacy education to adults and fulfill  
21 this responsibility by teaching reading, writing, mathematics,

1 technology, and English language skills to adults to prepare them to  
2 earn high school diplomas or achieve high school equivalency  
3 certificates; teach employability skills such as critical thinking,  
4 communication, problem solving, and decision making; and offer clear  
5 pathways to college-level education and credentials;

6 (e) The community and technical colleges offer an open door to  
7 every resident, regardless of academic background, experience, or  
8 economic means; and

9 (f) Knowledge of the true and accurate number of adults requiring  
10 basic education will provide the legislature with important  
11 information to potentially increase access to educational pathways  
12 leading to postsecondary credentials, living wage jobs, and  
13 meaningful participation in this state's democracy.

14 (2) The legislature intends to provide a regular dependable  
15 forecast through the caseload forecast council to better understand  
16 the need for basic education for adults in the state.

17 **Sec. 2.** RCW 43.88C.010 and 2021 c 334 s 975 are each amended to  
18 read as follows:

19 (1) The caseload forecast council is hereby created. The council  
20 shall consist of two individuals appointed by the governor and four  
21 individuals, one of whom is appointed by the chairperson of each of  
22 the two largest political caucuses in the senate and house of  
23 representatives. The chair of the council shall be selected from  
24 among the four caucus appointees. The council may select such other  
25 officers as the members deem necessary.

26 (2) The council shall employ a caseload forecast supervisor to  
27 supervise the preparation of all caseload forecasts. As used in this  
28 chapter, "supervisor" means the caseload forecast supervisor.

29 (3) Approval by an affirmative vote of at least five members of  
30 the council is required for any decisions regarding employment of the  
31 supervisor. Employment of the supervisor shall terminate after each  
32 term of three years. At the end of the first year of each three-year  
33 term the council shall consider extension of the supervisor's term by  
34 one year. The council may fix the compensation of the supervisor. The  
35 supervisor shall employ staff sufficient to accomplish the purposes  
36 of this section.

37 (4) The caseload forecast council shall oversee the preparation  
38 of and approve, by an affirmative vote of at least four members, the  
39 official state caseload forecasts prepared under RCW 43.88C.020. If

1 the council is unable to approve a forecast before a date required in  
2 RCW 43.88C.020, the supervisor shall submit the forecast without  
3 approval and the forecast shall have the same effect as if approved  
4 by the council.

5 (5) A councilmember who does not cast an affirmative vote for  
6 approval of the official caseload forecast may request, and the  
7 supervisor shall provide, an alternative forecast based on  
8 assumptions specified by the member.

9 (6) Members of the caseload forecast council shall serve without  
10 additional compensation but shall be reimbursed for travel expenses  
11 in accordance with RCW 44.04.120 while attending sessions of the  
12 council or on official business authorized by the council.  
13 Nonlegislative members of the council shall be reimbursed for travel  
14 expenses in accordance with RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060.

15 (7) "Caseload," as used in this chapter, means:

16 (a) The number of persons expected to meet entitlement  
17 requirements and require the services of public assistance programs,  
18 state correctional institutions, state correctional noninstitutional  
19 supervision, state institutions for juvenile offenders, the common  
20 school system, long-term care, medical assistance, foster care, and  
21 adoption support;

22 (b) The number of students who are eligible for the Washington  
23 college bound scholarship program and are expected to attend an  
24 institution of higher education as defined in RCW 28B.92.030;

25 (c) The number of students who are eligible for the Washington  
26 college grant program under RCW 28B.92.200 and 28B.92.205 and are  
27 expected to attend an institution of higher education as defined in  
28 RCW 28B.92.030; and

29 (d) The number of children who are eligible, as defined in RCW  
30 43.216.505, to participate in, and the number of children actually  
31 served by, the early childhood education and assistance program.

32 (8) The caseload forecast council shall forecast the temporary  
33 assistance for needy families and the working connections child care  
34 programs, the number of state residents ages 18 to 44 who do not have  
35 a high school diploma or credential, and the number of students  
36 expected to enroll in basic education for adults courses at community  
37 and technical colleges, as a courtesy.

38 (9) The caseload forecast council shall present the number of  
39 individuals who are assessed as eligible for and have requested a  
40 service through the individual and family services waiver and the

1 basic plus waiver administered by the developmental disabilities  
2 administration as a courtesy. The caseload forecast council shall be  
3 presented with the service request list as defined in RCW 71A.10.020  
4 to aid in development of this information.

5 (10) The caseload forecast council shall forecast youth  
6 participating in the extended foster care program pursuant to RCW  
7 74.13.031 separately from other children who are residing in foster  
8 care and who are under eighteen years of age.

9 (11) The caseload forecast council shall forecast the number of  
10 youth expected to receive behavioral rehabilitation services while  
11 involved in the foster care system and the number of screened in  
12 reports of child abuse or neglect.

13 (12) Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the  
14 definitions provided in RCW 43.88.020 apply to this chapter.

15 (13) During the 2021-2023 fiscal biennium, and beginning with the  
16 November 2021 forecast, the caseload forecast council shall produce  
17 an unofficial forecast of the long-term caseload for juvenile  
18 rehabilitation as a courtesy.

19 **Sec. 3.** RCW 43.88C.050 and 2018 c 58 s 15 are each amended to  
20 read as follows:

21 The caseload forecast council shall appoint a research staff of  
22 sufficient size and with sufficient resources to accomplish its  
23 duties. The caseload forecast council may request from the  
24 administrative office of the courts, the department of children,  
25 youth, and families, the department of corrections, the health care  
26 authority, the superintendent of public instruction, the Washington  
27 student achievement council, the state board for community and  
28 technical colleges, the education data center, the department of  
29 social and health services, and other agencies with caseloads  
30 forecasted by the council, such data, information, and data  
31 processing assistance as it may need to accomplish its duties, and  
32 such services shall be provided without cost to the caseload forecast  
33 council.

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