
HOUSE BILL 2183

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

By Representative Young

1 AN ACT Relating to increasing students' posthigh school job
2 readiness by expanding access to WorkSource resources; adding a new
3 section to chapter 28A.320 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 50.08
4 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature acknowledges that
7 efforts by high schools to prepare students to transition from their
8 educational environment into the labor market often follow an
9 outdated model that focuses almost solely on college preparation.
10 Sixty years of using this model has resulted in a labor market
11 crisis. Over half of college graduates are underemployed or
12 unemployed because their degree is not in demand and may never be in
13 demand. In contrast, the trades demand seven million workers and this
14 number is growing.

15 (2) The legislature finds that WorkSource in the Washington
16 employment security department provides free employment and training
17 services for job seekers, such as interest assessments, job listings,
18 resume and application assistance, access to computers and other
19 equipment, and training referrals. Many public high schools are not
20 using WorkSource's critical resources. Instead, some are paying for

1 services and resources that are substantially similar to those
2 provided by WorkSource.

3 (3) The legislature intends to increase the effective use of
4 state resources by requiring public high schools to partner with
5 WorkSource to promote the use of its employment and training
6 services. In addition, the legislature intends to require that public
7 school students register for WorkSource in the eleventh grade. In
8 this way, public high schools will save money, career preparation
9 will be more consistent across the state, and youth will be better
10 prepared to enter the labor market.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.320
12 RCW to read as follows:

13 (1) In order to increase students' posthigh school job readiness,
14 school districts must partner with the employment security department
15 to promote the use of employment and training services for job
16 seekers provided by a partnership of state, local, and nonprofit
17 agencies, known as WorkSource. These employment and training
18 services, such as interest assessments, job listings, resume and
19 application assistance, access to computers and other equipment, and
20 training referrals, may be available either online or in-person at
21 job centers located across the state.

22 (2) Beginning in the 2020-21 school year, school districts must
23 require students to register for the employment and training services
24 described in subsection (1) of this section during the eleventh
25 grade. Students may use either a student's social security number or
26 state student identification number to register.

27 (3) Each school district must enter a data-sharing agreement with
28 the employment security department so that school district staff can
29 assist students in registering for and using the employment and
30 training services described in subsection (1) of this section.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 50.08
32 RCW to read as follows:

33 The employment security department must enter data-sharing
34 agreements with school districts so that school district staff can
35 assist students in registering for and using the employment and
36 training services for job seekers provided by a partnership of state,

1 local, and nonprofit agencies, known as WorkSource, as required under
2 section 2 of this act.

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