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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5853**

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**State of Washington****65th Legislature****2017 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Senators Walsh, Rolfes, Angel, Warnick, Wellman, Conway, Rivers, Takko, Schoesler, Zeiger, Brown, Billig, Bailey, Fain, Hasegawa, and Hobbs)

1 AN ACT Relating to career and technical education funding; adding  
2 new sections to chapter 28A.150 RCW; adding a new section to chapter  
3 28A.300 RCW; creating a new section; and declaring an emergency.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that Washington  
6 state requires a workforce that supports our highly diversified  
7 economy and helps build healthy, safe communities. Recent economic  
8 studies are projecting that Washington state will experience  
9 historically high job growth over the next five years. An estimated  
10 seven hundred forty thousand job openings will create opportunities  
11 for Washingtonians holding some level of postsecondary educational  
12 credential or training. About thirty-five percent of these projected  
13 opportunities will offer wages ranging from sixty thousand dollars to  
14 over one hundred thousand dollars for those candidates who have  
15 acquired special skills and training while achieving a high school  
16 diploma and some postsecondary training. An estimated forty-five  
17 percent of these seven hundred forty thousand jobs are called  
18 "pathway jobs" with salaries of thirty thousand dollars to forty-five  
19 thousand dollars and offer a route to a career job for those who have  
20 earned a high school diploma and some postsecondary credentials or  
21 training. The legislature further finds the joint legislative task

1 force on the economic resilience of maritime and manufacturing in  
2 Washington finds that current and future jobs in the maritime and  
3 manufacturing sectors, which together constitute an estimated forty  
4 percent of the state's economy, will require workers who have been  
5 offered career and technical education pathways while in middle  
6 school and high school that lead to postsecondary credentials and  
7 employment in Washington state. The legislature also finds the United  
8 States department of agriculture predicts, in its recent report on  
9 employment opportunities for college graduates in food, agriculture,  
10 renewable natural resources, and the environment, that employment  
11 opportunities in these fields are expected to increase and that the  
12 agriculture, environment, and natural resources economic sectors can  
13 offer rewarding career paths for students who are interested in the  
14 natural world and are excited by the idea of having a career with  
15 outdoor opportunities.

16 Therefore, the legislature intends to offer a comprehensive  
17 approach to career and technical education pathways in middle school  
18 and high school that help prepare today's students for rewarding  
19 future careers across a broad spectrum of industries. The legislature  
20 further intends to direct the superintendent of public instruction to  
21 take actions to increase the number of career and technical course  
22 equivalencies and provide professional development to support the  
23 implementation of the course equivalencies on a broader scale across  
24 the state.

25 The legislature further intends to enhance the per pupil funding  
26 formula for career and technical education to reflect the additional  
27 costs for equipment, materials, supplies, and other operational  
28 expenses. The legislature also intends to specify the allowable uses  
29 for this funding and to specify a maximum indirect cost to ensure  
30 that the funds appropriated are used to the greatest extent possible  
31 for their intended purpose.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.150  
33 RCW to read as follows:

34 (1) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this  
35 specific purpose, the office of the superintendent of public  
36 instruction must create methodologies for implementing equivalency  
37 crediting on a broader scale across the state and facilitate its  
38 implementation including, but not limited to, the following:

1 (a) Implementing statewide career and technical education course  
2 equivalency frameworks authorized under RCW 28A.700.070 for high  
3 schools and skill centers in science, technology, engineering, and  
4 mathematics. This may include development of additional equivalency  
5 course frameworks in core subject areas, course performance  
6 assessments, and development and delivery of professional development  
7 for districts and skill centers implementing the career and technical  
8 education frameworks; and

9 (b) Providing competitive grant funds to school districts to  
10 increase the integration and rigor of academic instruction in career  
11 and technical education equivalency courses. The grant funds must be  
12 used to support teams of general education and career and technical  
13 education teachers to convene and design course performance  
14 assessments, deepen the understanding of integrating academic and  
15 career and technical education in student instruction, and develop  
16 professional learning modules for school districts to plan  
17 implementation of equivalency crediting.

18 (2) Beginning in the 2017-18 school year, school districts shall  
19 annually report to the office of the superintendent of public  
20 instruction the following information:

21 (a) The annual number of students participating in state-approved  
22 equivalency courses; and

23 (b) The annual number of state approved equivalency credit  
24 courses offered in school districts and skill centers.

25 (3) Beginning December 1, 2017, and every December 1st  
26 thereafter, the office of the superintendent of public instruction  
27 shall annually submit a summary of the school district information  
28 reported under subsection (2) of this section to the office of the  
29 governor and the appropriate committees of the legislature.

30 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.300  
31 RCW to read as follows:

32 (1) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall  
33 establish a competitive grant process for school districts to apply  
34 for grants for the purpose of purchasing career and technical  
35 education equipment.

36 (2) The office of the superintendent of public instruction may  
37 adopt rules for the grant program established under this section.

1 (3) Competitive grants awarded under this section are subject to  
2 the availability of amounts appropriated by the state for this  
3 specific purpose.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.150  
5 RCW to read as follows:

6 The only allowable uses of the funding provided for career and  
7 technical education are:

8 (1) Materials, equipment, and supplies for career and technical  
9 education programs;

10 (2) Career and technical education staff salaries limited to the  
11 state salary allocation and extended learning activities and  
12 contracts connected to career and technical education program  
13 delivery;

14 (3) Work-based learning programs such as internships and  
15 preapprenticeship programs, including coordination tied to career and  
16 technical education coursework;

17 (4) New high quality career and technical education and expanded  
18 learning program development in high-demand fields;

19 (5) Certified work-based learning coordinators and career  
20 guidance advisors;

21 (6) School expenses associated with career and technical  
22 education community partnerships with a career discovery focus  
23 including research or evidence-based mentoring programs and expanded  
24 learning opportunities in school, before or after school, and during  
25 the summer, and career-focused education programs with private and  
26 public K-12 schools and colleges, community-based organizations and  
27 nonprofit organizations, industry partners, tribal governments, and  
28 workforce development entities;

29 (7) Professional development associated with career and technical  
30 education training with K-12 schools, community and technical  
31 colleges, and industry partners;

32 (8) Student fees for national and state industry-recognized  
33 certifications; and

34 (9) Course equivalency development to integrate core learning  
35 standards into career and technical education courses.

36 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.150  
37 RCW to read as follows:

1       The maximum allowable indirect cost for school districts for  
2 career and technical education programs funded through state and  
3 federal funds must not exceed the limitations provided under federal  
4 law for federal career and technical education funding provided to  
5 districts, or five percent, whichever is lower.

6       NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 6.**   This act is necessary for the immediate  
7 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of  
8 the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes  
9 effect immediately.

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