

5CR

57-4

HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(11)

Date referred: 5/2/88

FURTHER REFERRALS:

DATE: 5-3-88

The Finance Committee has considered SCR 57 am

Relating to the implementation of local hire through improved cooperation between employers and schools.

RECOMMENDS:

- replace with _____ the same title
- attached amendment(s) a new title
- do pass
- do not pass
- no recommendation
- individual recommendations
- additional referral to the _____ Committee

ADOPTS: _____ letter of intent

ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):

- fiscal impact
- zero fiscal note
- zero with analysis
- same as previous fiscal note published 4/29/88 (senate)
- same as previous zero fiscal note published _____

SIGNING DO PASS:

Ray Johnson

Ed Swalle

Steve King

J. Jones

SIGNING OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:

Ed Adams - No Rec

Pat Kunkel no rec.

Mary Boyer no rec.

Kay Bell

Kal Brown

White Adams

Ed Adams

 Chairman's signature

FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST:

Revision Date: _____ Agency Affected: Dept. of Education
 Title: Implementation of local hire cooperation between employers & schools BRU: Executive Administration
 Sponsor: _____ Components: _____
 Requestor: _____

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL		25.0				
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING		25.0				

CAPITAL						
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REVENUE						
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FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND		25.0				
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL		25.0				

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This represents the cost of convening the groups necessary, writing the summaries of group activities, working with education and employer representatives to arrive at solutions, and formulating specific recommendations.

Prepared by: Rick Walford Phone: 465-3753
 Division: Senator Rick Walford, Co-chairman Date: April 28, 1988
Senate Finance Committee

Approved by Commissioner: _____ Date: _____
 Agency: _____

Distribution (by preparer):

- Legislative Finance
- Legislative Sponsor
- Requestor
- Office of Management and Budget
- Impacted Agency(ies)

Local Hire And Economic Development Through Improvement Of School/Business Partnerships

Present Situation

Like many other states, Alaska generally offers young people inadequate transition between school and work. Young people who attempt to go from high school to work too often fail to find jobs because they either lack training or basic employability skills.

As the National Commission on Excellence in Education put it: "More and more young people emerge from high school ready neither for college nor for work. This predicament becomes more acute as the knowledge base continues its rapid expansion, the number of traditional jobs shrink, and new jobs demand greater sophistication and preparation."

As Kay R. Whitmore, President and Executive Officer for Eastman Kodak Company said: "The bottom line here...we need to show our troubled teenagers that there is a payoff for staying in school. That means not only improved guidance counseling and the establishment of mentoring programs...It means developing meaningful work experiences for these youngsters in close conjunction with their school curriculum."

While schools generally offer vocational programs that provide students with skills, such as welding, small engine repair and wood working, studies show that employers much prefer young workers with adequate basic skills in communications, computation, and social and interpersonal areas. In other words, employers would rather the public schools provide them with workers they can train, who can learn the job they were hired for, and who get along well with coworkers and customers. Part of the problem is that employers do not communicate their needs to public schools, and public schools do not seek the advice of employers.

Compounding this problem is a lack of coordination between public schools and the university system.

The Goal

SCR 57 creates a formal process that provides a direct line of communication between employers and schools to (1) produce a list of skills, attitudes, information and abilities that major Alaska employers believe high school graduates need to land and keep a job; (2) develop a course of actions that schools, businesses and perhaps government should take independently and collectively to assure that all students acquire these skills, attitudes, information and abilities; and (3) make recommendations on how to restructure public schools so that they provide minority, poor and other "high risk" students, with the necessary understanding and motivation to graduate from public schools with skills they need to lead a successful life.

On a broader level, SCR 57 aims to build an education system responsive to the larger economic goals of the state: a stable economy; a capable and steady Alaskan work force; workers capable of dealing with Pacific Rim clients; and a concerted statewide effort to give job preference to Alaskans specifically trained for the Alaska work force.

The Five Phase Process

A five-phase process will include the following actions:

1. The blue ribbon task force composed of chief executive officers will convene to explore new approaches to better prepare students to succeed in the work place. This meeting is designed to build CEO commitment toward the project.

2. A group of personnel managers and job supervisors of larger companies (each of whom represents a task force member) and owners of smaller companies will meet to identify the skills that Alaska high school graduates need to make them employable for Alaska's businesses. This group will (1) identify the type of work force businesses need to successfully compete in the marketplace; (2) identify ways in which public schools and higher education, in partnership with business, can accommodate the ideas developed by the task force; and (3) identify ways to break the cycle of failure of minority, poor and other high risk students, and to make them contributing members of the economy.

3. A group of educators will convene to respond to the findings from the meeting of personnel managers and assess how to restructure schools to meet the economic needs of Alaska. This could be done by a variety of methods, such as retooling curriculums.

4. Educators and employers will meet to negotiate an agreement and methods for implementation.

5. A written report of the agreement and details of employer needs and actions necessary to implement will be presented to the Legislature.

1 IN THE SENATE BY THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE
2 SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 57 am
3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
4 FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Relating to the implementation of local
6 hire through improved cooperation
7 between employers and schools.

8 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

9 WHEREAS many employers in the state believe that public education
10 could improve the process of preparing students for public or private
11 employment; and

12 WHEREAS if residents of the state do not possess the basic skills
13 necessary for successful employment, the goals of local hire and a stronger
14 state economy are difficult to achieve; and

15 WHEREAS it is the employer who is best informed regarding the educa-
16 tion and training that is desired in a new employee; and

17 WHEREAS employers in the state rely upon the public education system
18 to provide the skilled worker of the future;

19 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the Governor is
20 respectfully requested to direct the State Board of Education to convene a
21 task force of Alaska employers for the purpose of determining the specific
22 changes or improvements that should be made to the system of public educa-
23 tion in order to better prepare students for employment in the state; and
24 be it

25 FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force process shall include a broad
26 cross section of Alaska employers and people responsible for elementary,
27 secondary, and postsecondary education; and be it

28 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor is respectfully requested to direct
29 the commissioner of education to report the recommendations of the task

1 force for improving the state system of public education to the First
2 Session of the Sixteenth Alaska State Legislature by January 31, 1989.

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