

HCR

53

HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(7)

Date referred: 3/24/88

FURTHER REFERRALS: Finance

DATE: April 19, 1988

The Health, Education and Social Services Committee has considered HCR 53

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 same as previous fiscal note published _____
- zero fiscal note same as previous zero fiscal note published _____
- zero with analysis

SIGNING DO PASS:

W. K. ...
M. ...
Bill ...
J. Ellis
D. ...

SIGNING OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:

Roll & ... No Rec
... No Rec

W. K. ...
 C. Chairman's signature
J. Ellis

FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST:

Revision Date: _____
Title: local hire through improved cooperation between employers & Schools
Sponsor: House Rules
Requestor: House HESS

Agency Affected: Education
BRU: Executive Administration
Components: _____

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL		30.0				
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING		30.0				

CAPITAL						
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REVENUE						
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FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND		30.0				
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL		30.0				

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: Steve Hole Phone: 465-2800
Division: Commissioner's Office Date: 4-14-88

Approved by Commissioner: William G. Demmert Date: 4-14-88
Agency: Department of Education

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.

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THE LEGISLATURE

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May, 1988

Copies of minutes listed below were originally included in this file. The minutes are available on the STAIRS database CMPR. In order to save space copies of minutes have not been left in the files.

Mary Van Nimwegen

HHESS

4-19-88

8:30 a.m.