

SECURING AEROSPACE IN WASHINGTON: A LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

January 2012

Washington currently employs the largest concentration of aerospace jobs in the world – it's a cornerstone of our economy. And it's not just Boeing jobs. There are hundreds of aerospace-related companies, large and small, employing tens of thousands of workers in 29 of Washington's 39 counties. Business, government and labor leaders are working together through the Washington Aerospace Partnership to make sure Washington continues to be a leader in aerospace excellence.

What are our Principles?

- Provide higher education opportunities for Washington residents to support the engineering, design and innovation needs of aerospace
- Increase and strengthen our skilled aerospace manufacturing workforce
- Maintain and expand our aerospace manufacturing base and research facilities
- Foster a business climate that spurs innovation and productivity
- Invest in our transportation system to ensure the efficient and reliable movement of people and goods throughout the state and nationwide
- Collaborate between business, labor and government to keep Washington an aerospace center of excellence

Aerospace Excellence Legislative Proposals

The Partnership is working to advance a package of legislative proposals to keep and grow aerospace jobs now and for the future. These proposals are a starting point. We are committed to working with the governor and legislators to ensure Washington continues to maintain and grow its aerospace leadership.

Expand Training & Proficiency

High School **✓ ENACTED 2011**

These initiatives create opportunities for students to graduate from high school with up to one year's worth of college credit and training in their chosen field. Two bills propose programs for high school students seeking a career in aerospace:

- Enhanced manufacturing courses at skills centers (SB 5975, HB 2159)
 - **Investment:** \$150,000 for two skills centers.
- Expand the aerospace assembler program (SB 5975, HB 2159)
 - **Investment:** \$300,000 for startup grants to 12 high schools to receive aerospace assembler and manufacturing support.
- Link aerospace manufacturing technical certification courses and credits beginning in a student's last year of high school. (SB 5974, HB 2158)



**WASHINGTON
AEROSPACE
PARTNERSHIP**

- o **Legislation:** Require the award of postsecondary credit when students demonstrate the competencies.
- o **Investment:** \$250,000 in start-up support to add an advanced courses in 10 high schools



Teachers(SB 5973, HB 2160) ✓ **ENACTED 2011**

More teachers with stronger STEM proficiencies are needed. Current basic skills requirements for STEM teacher certification will be replaced with higher levels of integrated teaching techniques for science, technology, engineering and math.

- **Legislation:** Tasks the Professional Educator Standards Board with establishing more rigorous standards for teacher math and science knowledge. The PESB will be responsible for developing standards and requiring continuing education or professional skills training.

State Board for Community and Technical Colleges(SB 5976)

The SBCTC established the Center of Excellence and provides funding for core services. Funding for additional coordination activities has been secured through a federal grant for Air Washington.

- **Legislation:** Directs the Center of Excellence, with input from an industry-led advisory board, to coordinate aerospace manufacturing training to meet industry demand for workers in Washington and implement outcomes based evaluation of results.

Advance Research & Development (SB 5982, HB 2155)

Create a Center for Aerospace Technology Innovation at UW and WSU to advance research on new technologies for products in aviation, aerospace and defense.

- **Investment:** \$1.5 million in start-up funds to form the Center and help the universities and industry to recruit additional support. Companies will provide additional support on a project basis where appropriate.

Extend Tax Credit Expiration (SB 5983)

The current B&O tax credit is equal to 1.5 percent of aerospace product development costs, including research, design and engineering activities performed in Washington. Extending the credit will ensure Washington remains a stable and predictable business environment for future aerospace development projects.

- **Legislation:** The credit was enacted Dec. 1, 2003, and is set to expire July 1, 2024. This legislation proposes to extend the expiration date to July 1, 2034.

Produce More Engineering Degrees (Operating Budget)

Increasing the number of engineering degrees produced at Washington universities is critical to meeting the growing need for highly skilled aerospace workers. This proposal will expand capacity at the UW and WSU to graduate 775 more engineering students.

- **Investment:** \$7.6 million to support the high cost portion of additional engineering student enrollments at the UW and WSU.

Washington Aerospace Partnership
 c/o Economic Alliance of Snohomish County
 728 134th Street SW Suite 128
 Everett, Washington 98204

www.washington-aerospace.com

Questions about WAP? Call Tayloe Washburn at 206.419.3878

Questions from news media? Call Karina Shagren at 360.628.3660



**WASHINGTON
 AEROSPACE
 PARTNERSHIP**