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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5264**

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**State of Washington**

**53rd Legislature**

**1993 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Committee on Trade, Technology & Economic Development (originally sponsored by Senators M. Rasmussen, Bluechel, Skratek, Erwin, Deccio, Roach, Sheldon, Williams, Moore, Loveland, Sutherland, Bauer and Winsley)

Read first time 02/08/93.

1 AN ACT Relating to trade and economic development; adding a new  
2 section to chapter 43.31 RCW; creating a new section; and making an  
3 appropriation.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that developing trade  
6 in the Pacific Rim is essential to the long-term growth of Washington  
7 state. The Russian Far East is an area of vast resources with great  
8 opportunities in trade and business for Washington state. The Russian  
9 Far East consists of the Primorski, Khabarovsk, Sakhalin, Yakutsk,  
10 Amur, Magadan, and Kamchatka regions. The Russian Far East is the  
11 Pacific gateway to the great resources of Russia and a major center for  
12 shipping. The Pacific Northwest and Russian Far East are neighbors  
13 with a shared economic future. Trade and business with the Russian Far  
14 East are essential to attain Washington's goal of promoting and being  
15 the conduit for Pacific Rim trade.

16 The legislature recognizes that Russia's decision to open a  
17 consulate general in Seattle and the United States' decision to open a  
18 consulate general in Vladivostok demonstrate American and Russian  
19 commitment to business, trade, cultural, and governmental relations

1 with one another. The Pacific Northwest is in a prime position to  
2 benefit from these openings and is key in developing these relations.

3 Further, the legislature finds that many medium-sized and small  
4 businesses in Washington state are missing opportunities in Russia  
5 because of a lack of accessible information and an inability to  
6 maintain a constant presence in Russia to seek out and develop business  
7 opportunities.

8 The legislature finds that the establishment of a trade office in  
9 the Russian Far East would help Washington businesses take advantage of  
10 present and future trade and business opportunities. The trade office  
11 is intended to demonstrate Washington's long-term commitment to the  
12 region and ensure that viable business relations are found and  
13 developed to increase trade and business between Washington state and  
14 the Russian Far East.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 43.31 RCW  
16 to read as follows:

17 The department shall establish a Washington state trade office in  
18 the Russian Far East.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The sum of one hundred fifty-five thousand  
20 dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for  
21 the biennium ending June 30, 1995, from the general fund to the  
22 department of trade and economic development for the purposes of this  
23 act.

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