

HOUSE BILL REPORT

HB 3134

As Reported by House Committee On:
State Government & Tribal Affairs

Title: An act relating to ethical conduct with regard to private gain.

Brief Description: Concerning state officer's and state employee's ethical conduct with regard to private gain.

Sponsors: Representative Simpson.

Brief History:

Committee Activity:

State Government & Tribal Affairs: 2/4/08, 2/5/08 [DP].

Brief Summary of Bill

- Provides that the selling of merchandise or services under the terms of a contract with an official wellness program of a state agency is not a violation of the private benefit or gain provisions of the ethics laws.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT & TRIBAL AFFAIRS

Majority Report: Do pass. Signed by 5 members: Representatives Hunt, Chair; Appleton, Vice Chair; Liias, Miloscia and Ormsby.

Minority Report: Do not pass. Signed by 3 members: Representatives Chandler, Ranking Minority Member; Armstrong, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; Kretz.

Staff: Marsha Reilly (786-7135).

Background:

It is a violation of state ethics laws for a state officer or state employee to employ or use any person, money, or property under the officer's or employee's control or direction or in his or her official custody, for his or her private benefit or for the benefit of another.

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Summary of Bill:

The selling of merchandise or services under the terms of a contract with an official wellness program of a state agency is not a violation of the private benefit or gain provisions of the ethics laws.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

Staff Summary of Public Testimony:

(In support) There is a wellness program here in Olympia that employees are able to participate in. However, under existing law a Weight Watchers program would not be eligible to be part of a wellness program because Weight Watchers sells products at its meetings. This bill will allow programs that sell products or services relating to a wellness program to contract with the wellness program of a state agency.

(Opposed) None.

Persons Testifying: Representative Simpson, prime sponsor.

Persons Signed In To Testify But Not Testifying: None.