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**ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL 1087**

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**State of Washington**

**61st Legislature**

**2009 Regular Session**

**By** Representatives Kenney, Pettigrew, Hasegawa, Darneille, Chase, Nelson, Sullivan, Dickerson, Hudgins, White, and Upthegrove

Prefiled 01/08/09. Read first time 01/12/09. Referred to Committee on Community & Economic Development & Trade.

1       AN ACT Relating to improving the effectiveness of the office of  
2 minority and women's business enterprises; amending RCW 39.19.041; and  
3 adding new sections to chapter 39.19 RCW.

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

5       NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 39.19 RCW  
6 to read as follows:

7       (1) The office shall, in consultation with the advisory committee,  
8 develop a strategic plan to improve its effectiveness in carrying out  
9 the purposes of this chapter, including assisting small minority and  
10 women's business enterprises to succeed in this state. The plan must  
11 be updated at least annually and must include timelines and, at a  
12 minimum, strategies to:

13       (a) Facilitate communication with and among minority and women's  
14 business enterprises on contracting with the state, including providing  
15 for a central depository of information accessible to small businesses;

16       (b) Improve outreach to small businesses, including publicizing the  
17 value of certification under this chapter;

18       (c) Streamline the statewide certification process;

1 (d) Focus technical assistance under this chapter to small  
2 businesses and certified firms;

3 (e) Address barriers to inclusion of certified firms in the state  
4 procurement process and increase selection of certified firms as prime  
5 contractors and subcontractors in contracts awarded by state agencies  
6 and educational institutions; and

7 (f) Develop accountability measures to use in reporting progress by  
8 the office and other state agencies and educational institutions in  
9 achieving the purposes of this chapter.

10 (2) The office must report on the strategic plan and its assessment  
11 of progress to the governor and the appropriate committees of the  
12 legislature, with a preliminary report by September 1, 2009, and annual  
13 reports beginning December 1, 2009. The report must include relevant  
14 fiscal information.

15 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 39.19 RCW  
16 to read as follows:

17 For the purpose of annual reporting on progress required by section  
18 1 of this act, each state agency and educational institution shall  
19 submit data to the office on the participation by qualified minority  
20 and women-owned and controlled businesses in the agency's or  
21 institution's contracts and other related information requested by the  
22 director. The director shall determine the content and format of the  
23 data and the reporting schedule, which must be at least annually.

24 **Sec. 3.** RCW 39.19.041 and 1995 c 269 s 1302 are each amended to  
25 read as follows:

26 (1) By August 1, 2009, the director ((may)) shall establish ((ad  
27 hoc—advisory—committees,—as—necessary,)) an advisory committee on  
28 minority and women's business enterprises to assist in the development  
29 of policies to carry out the purposes of this chapter and to provide  
30 the director with policy advice on current issues.

31 (2) The advisory committee shall meet at least six times per year.  
32 Members may participate in a meeting of the advisory committee by means  
33 of a conference telephone or similar communications equipment, in which  
34 all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other at the  
35 same time. Participation by such means shall constitute presence, in  
36 person, at a meeting.

1       (3) The advisory committee membership may include up to fifteen  
2 members, subject to the following:  
3       (a) Members must be as diverse and representative as possible of  
4 businesses certified under this chapter and organizations that  
5 represent such businesses.  
6       (b) Membership must reflect statewide geographic distribution of  
7 small businesses.  
8       (c) The number of organizations represented may not exceed the  
9 number of businesses represented.  
10       (4) In addition to the members permitted under subsection (3) of  
11 this section, the advisory committee membership may include nonvoting  
12 representatives of state and local government.

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