
ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL 2867

State of Washington

54th Legislature

1996 Regular Session

By Representative Van Luven

Read first time 01/23/96. Referred to Committee on Trade & Economic Development.

1 AN ACT Relating to economic development; amending RCW 44.52.010,
2 44.52.020, 44.52.030, and 44.52.070; and adding a new section to
3 chapter 44.52 RCW.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 44.52.010 and 1985 c 467 s 17 are each amended to read
6 as follows:

7 ~~((1) Economic development and in particular international trade,~~
8 ~~tourism, and investment have become increasingly important to~~
9 ~~Washington, affecting the state's employment, revenues, and general~~
10 ~~economic well-being. Additionally, economic trends are rapidly~~
11 ~~changing and the international marketplace has become increasingly~~
12 ~~competitive as states and countries seek to improve and safeguard their~~
13 ~~own economic well-being. The purpose of the legislative committee on~~
14 ~~economic development is to provide responsive and consistent~~
15 ~~involvement by the legislature in economic development to maintain a~~
16 ~~healthy state economy and to provide employment opportunities to~~
17 ~~Washington residents.~~

18 ~~(2) There is created a legislative committee on economic~~
19 ~~development which shall consist of six senators and six representatives~~

1 from the legislature and the lieutenant governor who shall serve as
2 chairperson. The senate members of the committee shall be appointed by
3 the president of the senate and the house members of the committee
4 shall be appointed by the speaker of the house. Not more than three
5 members from each house shall be from the same political party. A list
6 of appointees shall be submitted before the close of each regular
7 legislative session during an odd numbered year or any successive
8 special session convened by the governor or the legislature prior to
9 the close of such regular session or successive special session(s) for
10 confirmation of senate members, by the senate, and house members, by
11 the house. Vacancies occurring shall be filled by the appointing
12 authority.) The legislature recognizes the need to direct attention of
13 state government to the unique economic challenges of the state of
14 Washington. Economic development efforts, which include work force
15 training and education, family wage job creation and retention,
16 industrial modernization, tourism, international trade, and business
17 assistance, have become increasingly important to state efforts to
18 encourage employment growth, increased state revenues, and general
19 economic well-being. Economic trends are rapidly changing and markets
20 have become increasingly competitive as states and countries seek to
21 improve and safeguard their own economic well-being. The purpose of
22 the joint legislative committee on economic development is to provide
23 responsive and consistent involvement by the legislature in economic
24 development to maintain a healthy state economy and to provide
25 employment opportunities to Washington residents.

26 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 44.52 RCW
27 to read as follows:

28 (1) There is created the joint legislative committee on economic
29 development which shall consist of twelve members of the legislature
30 selected as follows:

31 (a) Six members from the house of representatives appointed by the
32 speaker of the house of representatives, three of whom must be members
33 of the majority party and three of whom must be members of the minority
34 party.

35 (b) Six members from the senate appointed by the president of the
36 senate, three of whom must be members of the majority party and three
37 of whom must be members of the minority party.

1 (2) Members must be appointed prior to the close of each regular
2 session of the legislature for confirmation of senate members, by the
3 senate, and house of representatives members, by the house of
4 representatives. Vacancies occurring shall be filled by the appointing
5 authority.

6 (3) The chair of the house of representatives trade and economic
7 development committee and the senate labor, commerce and trade
8 committee shall alternately serve as chairs for one-year terms. The
9 chair of the house of representatives committee shall serve as the
10 initial chair. The chair may designate another member to serve as
11 chair in his or her absence.

12 **Sec. 3.** RCW 44.52.020 and 1985 c 467 s 18 are each amended to read
13 as follows:

14 The committee shall by majority vote establish subcommittees, and
15 prescribe rules of procedure for itself and its subcommittees which are
16 consistent with this chapter. ~~((The committee shall at a minimum
17 establish a subcommittee on international trade and a subcommittee on
18 industrial development.))~~ The committee shall be convened within sixty
19 days of the end of the regular legislative session to establish its
20 work plan and meeting dates for the year.

21 **Sec. 4.** RCW 44.52.030 and 1985 c 467 s 19 are each amended to read
22 as follows:

23 The committee or its subcommittees are authorized to study and
24 review economic development issues ~~((with special emphasis on
25 international trade, tourism, investment, and industrial development)),~~
26 including work force training and education, family wage job creation
27 and retention, industrial modernization, tourism, international trade,
28 investment, and entrepreneurial development, and to assist the
29 legislature in developing a comprehensive and consistent economic
30 development policy. The issues under review by the committee shall
31 include, but not be limited to:

32 (1) Evaluating existing state policies, laws, and programs which
33 promote or affect economic development with special emphasis on those
34 concerning international trade, tourism, and investment and determine
35 their cost-effectiveness and level of cooperation with other public and
36 private agencies.

1 (2) Monitoring economic trends, and developing for review by the
2 legislature such appropriate state responses as may be deemed effective
3 and appropriate.

4 (3) Monitoring economic development policies and programs of other
5 states and nations and evaluating their effectiveness.

6 (4) Determining the economic impact of (~~international trade,~~
7 ~~tourism, and investment~~) various business or industrial sectors upon
8 the state's economy.

9 (5) Assessing the need for and effect of federal, regional, and
10 state cooperation in economic development policies and programs.

11 (6) Developing and evaluating legislative proposals concerning the
12 issues specified in this section.

13 **Sec. 5.** RCW 44.52.070 and 1985 c 467 s 23 are each amended to read
14 as follows:

15 The committee shall cooperate, act, and function with legislative
16 committees, executive agencies, and with the councils or committees of
17 other states similar to this committee and with other interstate
18 research or policy organizations.

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