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HOUSE BILL 1025

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State of Washington

55th Legislature

1997 Regular Session

By Representatives O'Brien, Keiser, Veloria, Delvin, Murray and Regala

Read first time 01/13/97. Referred to Committee on Financial  
Institutions & Insurance.

1 AN ACT Relating to investment of state funds in corporations doing  
2 business in Northern Ireland; and adding new sections to chapter 43.84  
3 RCW.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** By January 1st of each year, the state  
6 investment board shall compile a list of corporations that, directly or  
7 through a subsidiary, do business in Northern Ireland and in whose  
8 stocks or obligations the state investment board has invested and shall  
9 determine whether such corporation has taken substantial action to  
10 achieve the following goals, known as the MacBride principles:

11 (1) Increasing the representation of individuals from  
12 underrepresented religious groups in the work force, including  
13 managerial, supervisory, administrative, clerical, and technical jobs;

14 (2) Adequate security for the protection of minority employees at  
15 the workplace and while traveling to and from work;

16 (3) The banning of provocative religious or political emblems from  
17 the workplace;

1 (4) All job openings shall be publicly advertised and special  
2 recruitment efforts shall be made to attract applicants from  
3 underrepresented religious groups;

4 (5) Layoff, recall, and termination procedures shall not in  
5 practice favor particular religious groups;

6 (6) The abolition of job reservations, apprenticeship restrictions,  
7 and differential employment criteria which discriminate on the basis of  
8 religion or ethnic origin;

9 (7) The development of training programs that will prepare  
10 substantial numbers of current minority employees for skilled jobs,  
11 including the expansion of existing programs and the creation of new  
12 programs to train, upgrade, and improve the skills of minority  
13 employees;

14 (8) The establishment of procedures to assess, identify, and  
15 actively recruit minority employees with potential for further  
16 advancement; and

17 (9) The appointment of a senior management staff member to oversee  
18 the company's affirmative action efforts and the setting up of time  
19 tables to carry out affirmative action principles.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** Whenever feasible, the state investment  
21 board shall sponsor, cosponsor, or support shareholder resolutions  
22 designed to encourage corporations doing business in Northern Ireland,  
23 in which the state investment board has invested, to adopt and  
24 implement the MacBride principles.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** Consistent with sound investment policy and  
26 prudent fiduciary standards, the state investment board is encouraged,  
27 with respect to state funds available for future investment in  
28 corporations doing business in Northern Ireland, to invest such funds  
29 in corporations conducting their operations in Northern Ireland in  
30 accordance with the MacBride principles and fair employment practices.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** Sections 1 through 3 of this act are each  
32 added to chapter 43.84 RCW.

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