
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1891

State of Washington

57th Legislature

2001 Regular Session

By House Committee on Appropriations (originally sponsored by Representatives Mulliken, Schoesler, Veloria, B. Chandler, Van Luven, Linville, G. Chandler, Conway and Dunn)

Read first time 03/08/2001. Referred to Committee on .

1 AN ACT Relating to international marketing of agriculture; adding
2 new sections to chapter 43.23 RCW; and creating new sections.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the growing and
5 processing of food and agricultural products is the dominant industry
6 in Washington state and a major employer in rural Washington. The
7 legislature also finds that agriculture is a critical component of
8 Washington's international trade industry, accounting for billions of
9 dollars in exports every year.

10 The legislature further finds that the export market for
11 Washington's agricultural products has dropped significantly in recent
12 years and that such a drop has negatively impacted the economy in
13 Washington's agricultural regions. Therefore, it is the intent of the
14 legislature to enhance Washington's international trade of agricultural
15 products by increasing funding for the Washington state department of
16 agriculture's international marketing program in an effort to promote
17 marketing of Washington's products and to assist the agricultural
18 industry in efforts to reduce trade barriers that stand in the way of
19 trade in new and emerging markets.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** There is created a market development and
2 promotion matching fund program within the Washington state department
3 of agriculture. The purpose of the program is to allow the department
4 of agriculture and the agricultural industry to combine funds in order
5 to access markets that are growth sales areas for a certain sector of
6 the industry's product. The goal of the program is to expose buyers to
7 Washington's diverse agricultural products. The agriculture industry
8 may bring in buying missions, perform trade promotions in various
9 markets, hire overseas contractors, and perform other marketing
10 functions that help it target the correct buyer and market for its
11 product.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** Trade barriers have become an increasingly
13 important issue in the agricultural arena. The world trade
14 organization highlighted the need for "a fair and level playing field."
15 In the Washington state department of agriculture's experience, both
16 large and small commodity groups need money to address this issue.
17 There is created within the department of agriculture a trade barrier
18 matching fund program. The purpose of the program is to allow the
19 department of agriculture and the agricultural industry to combine
20 funds in order to address trade barrier issues impacting the
21 agricultural industry.

22 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** Sections 2 and 3 of this act are each added
23 to chapter 43.23 RCW.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** If specific funding for the purposes of this
25 act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not provided by
26 June 30, 2001, in the omnibus appropriations act, this act is null and
27 void.

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