

SSB 5879 - H COMM AMD

By Committee on Community & Economic Development & Trade

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "Sec. 1. RCW 43.162.020 and 2007 c 232 s 4 are each amended to
4 read as follows:

5 (1) The Washington state economic development commission shall:

6 ~~((1))~~ (a) Concentrate its major efforts on planning,
7 coordination, evaluation, policy analysis, and recommending
8 improvements to the state's economic development system using, but not
9 limited to, the "Next Washington" plan and the global competitiveness
10 council recommendations;

11 ~~((2))~~ (b) Develop and maintain on a biennial basis a state
12 comprehensive plan for economic development, including but not limited
13 to:

14 (i) Goals, objectives, and priorities for the state economic
15 development system; ~~((identify))~~

16 (ii) Identification of the elements local associate development
17 organizations must include in their countywide economic development
18 plans; and

19 (iii) Review of the state system for consistency with the state
20 comprehensive plan. In developing the state comprehensive plan for
21 economic development, the commission shall use, but ~~((may not be))~~ is
22 not limited to: Economic, labor market, and populations trend reports
23 in office of financial management forecasts; the annual state economic
24 climate report prepared by the economic climate council; joint office
25 of financial management and employment security department labor force,
26 industry employment, and occupational forecasts; the results of
27 scientifically based outcome evaluations; the needs of industry
28 associations, industry clusters, businesses, and employees as evidenced
29 in formal surveys and other input;

1 ~~((3))~~ (c) Establish and maintain an inventory of the programs of
2 the state economic development system and related state programs,
3 including education, training, and technical assistance services and
4 programs serving entrepreneurs; perform a biennial assessment of the
5 ongoing and strategic economic development needs of the state; and
6 assess the extent to which the economic development system and related
7 programs are successful or underperforming in meeting these needs and
8 the extent to which they represent a consistent, coordinated,
9 efficient, and integrated approach to meet such needs; and

10 ~~((4))~~ (d) Produce a biennial report to the governor and the
11 legislature on progress by the commission in coordinating the state's
12 economic development system and meeting the other obligations of this
13 chapter, ~~((as well as include))~~ with recommendations for any statutory
14 changes necessary to enhance operational efficiencies or improve
15 coordination.

16 (2) The commission may delegate to the executive director any of
17 the functions of this section.

18 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. (1) Within the appropriations provided for
19 the Washington state economic development commission and the workforce
20 training and education coordinating board, the commission and the board
21 shall jointly:

22 (a) Create an inventory of targeted education, training, and
23 technical assistance services and programs available in the state that
24 provide exclusively the skills and knowledge that entrepreneurs seek.
25 The inventory must include:

26 (i) A report of the numbers of individuals who have sought such
27 services or programs, and indicators of the scale of the business
28 ventures represented by those entrepreneurs;

29 (ii) A survey of those served by inventoried services and programs
30 to solicit their views regarding the merits and limitations of the
31 services and programs; and

32 (iii) Documentation of the amounts and sources of public funds
33 provided for the services and programs, and the benefits of the
34 services and programs;

35 (b) Evaluate practices from other governmental, educational, and
36 private entities to identify best practices that yield job creation,
37 business growth, and business expansion into new markets; and

1 (c) By December 1, 2009, produce a report to the appropriate
2 committees of the legislature and the director of the department of
3 community, trade, and economic development on the program inventory
4 required under this section, with:

5 (i) Identification of both successful and underperforming programs
6 or services, with recommendations for enhancement, consolidation, or
7 elimination of programs or services, as appropriate;

8 (ii) Recommendations on best practices for meeting the needs of
9 entrepreneurs; and

10 (iii) Identification of business climate concerns and regulatory
11 barriers identified by entrepreneurs.

12 (2) This section expires January 1, 2010."

13 Correct the title.

EFFECT: The amendment:

(1) Specifies that the Economic Development Commission's duty to inventory the state's economic development programs includes educational and technical assistance programs serving entrepreneurs and an assessment of the extent that economic development programs are successful or underperforming in meeting the state's economic development needs;

(2) Requires, within the appropriations for the agencies, an inventory of training and assistance programs in the state that provide exclusively the skills and knowledge that entrepreneurs seek, to be done jointly by the Commission and the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board;

(3) Specifies that the inventory will report on the numbers of individuals who have sought services and the scale of businesses represented by them, will survey those served by the programs, and will document the public resources used and the benefits of the programs;

(4) Requires the agencies to evaluate programs from other entities and identify best practices;

(5) Deletes requirements for the Commission to distribute awards for excellence in entrepreneurial and innovation training and assistance;

(6) Requires a joint report by December 1, 2009, to the Legislature and the Director of Community, Trade, and Economic Development with recommendations on successful and underperforming programs and on best practices, and identification of business climate concerns and barriers identified by entrepreneurs; and

(7) Expires the new inventory requirement on January 1, 2010.

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