
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5982

State of Washington

62nd Legislature

2012 Regular Session

By Senate Economic Development, Trade & Innovation (originally sponsored by Senators Kastama, Shin, Hobbs, Harper, Eide, Kilmer, Conway, Sheldon, Haugen, Kohl-Welles, Frockt, Keiser, Fain, Tom, Chase, and McAuliffe; by request of Governor Gregoire)

READ FIRST TIME 01/31/12.

1 AN ACT Relating to the joint center for aerospace technology
2 innovation; and adding a new chapter to Title 28B RCW.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The joint center for aerospace
5 technology innovation is created to:

6 (a) Pursue joint industry-university research in computing,
7 manufacturing efficiency, materials/structures innovation, and other
8 new technologies that can be used in aerospace firms;

9 (b) Enhance the education of students in the engineering
10 departments of the University of Washington, Washington State
11 University, and other participating institutions through industry-
12 focused research; and

13 (c) Work directly with existing small, medium-sized, and large
14 aerospace firms and aerospace industry associations to identify
15 research needs and opportunities to transfer off-the-shelf technologies
16 that would benefit such firms.

17 (2) The center shall be operated and administered as a multi-
18 institutional education and research center, conducting research and
19 development programs in various locations within Washington under the

1 joint authority of the University of Washington and Washington State
2 University. The initial administrative offices of the center shall be
3 west of the crest of the Cascade mountains. The facilities of the
4 center must be made available to other institutions of higher education
5 when this would meet aerospace industry identified needs.

6 (3) The powers of the center are vested in and shall be exercised
7 by a board of directors. The board shall consist of nine members
8 appointed by the governor. The governor shall appoint a nonvoting
9 chair. Of the eight voting members, one member shall represent small
10 aerospace firms, one member shall represent medium-sized firms, one
11 member shall represent large aerospace firms, one member shall
12 represent labor, two members shall represent aerospace industry
13 associations, and two members shall represent higher education. The
14 terms of the initial members shall be staggered.

15 (4) The board shall hire an executive director. The executive
16 director shall hire such staff as the board deems necessary to operate
17 the center. Staff support may be provided from among the cooperating
18 institutions through cooperative agreements to the extent funds are
19 available. The executive director may enter into cooperative
20 agreements for programs and research with public and private
21 organizations including state and nonstate agencies consistent with
22 policies of the participating institutions.

23 (5) The board must:

24 (a) Work with aerospace industry associations and aerospace firms
25 of all sizes to identify the research areas that will benefit the
26 intermediate and long-term economic vitality of the Washington
27 aerospace industry;

28 (b) Identify entrepreneurial researchers to join or lead research
29 teams in the research areas specified in (a) of this subsection and the
30 steps the University of Washington and Washington State University will
31 take to recruit such researchers;

32 (c) Assist firms to integrate existing technologies into their
33 operations and align the activities of the center with those of impact
34 Washington and innovate Washington to enhance services available to
35 aerospace firms;

36 (d) Develop internships, on-the-job training, research, and other
37 opportunities and ensure that all undergraduate and graduate students

1 enrolled in an aerospace engineering curriculum have direct experience
2 with aerospace firms;

3 (e) Assist researchers and firms in safeguarding intellectual
4 property while advancing industry innovation;

5 (f) Develop and strengthen university-industry relationships
6 through promotion of faculty collaboration with industry, and sponsor,
7 in collaboration with innovate Washington, at least one annual
8 symposium focusing on aerospace research in the state of Washington;

9 (g) Encourage a full range of projects from small research projects
10 that meet the specific needs of a smaller company to large scale,
11 multipartner projects;

12 (h) Develop nonstate support of the center's research activities
13 through leveraging dollars from federal and private for-profit and
14 nonprofit sources;

15 (i) Leverage its financial impact through joint support
16 arrangements on a project-by-project basis as appropriate;

17 (j) Establish mechanisms for soliciting and evaluating proposals
18 and for making awards and reporting on technological progress,
19 financial leverage, and other measures of impact;

20 (k) By June 30, 2013, develop an operating plan that includes the
21 specific processes, methods, or mechanisms the center will use to
22 accomplish each of its duties as set out in this subsection; and

23 (l) Report biennially to the legislature and the governor about the
24 impact of the center's work on the state's economy and the aerospace
25 sector, with projections of future impact, providing indicators of its
26 impact, and outlining ideas for enhancing benefits to the state. The
27 report must be coordinated with the governor's office, the Washington
28 economic development commission, the department of commerce, and
29 innovate Washington.

30 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The joint center for aerospace technology
31 innovation may solicit and receive gifts, grants, donations,
32 sponsorships, or contributions from any federal, state, or local
33 governmental agency or program or any private source, and expend the
34 same for any purpose consistent with this chapter.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** Sections 1 and 2 of this act constitute a
2 new chapter in Title 28B RCW.

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