

1 2526-S.E AMS CL S4252.1

2 **ESHB 2526** - S COMM AMD

3 By Committee on Commerce & Labor

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5 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
6 following:

7 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** Given the rapid change in both the
8 structure of the state and world economy, it is recognized that
9 experiments in identifying, communicating, and acting upon new means of
10 protecting and enhancing the viability and self reliance of rural
11 Washington communities are needed. Voluntary and meaningful
12 communication between all levels of government, including tribal
13 governments, and the nonprofit and private sectors is critical for the
14 representation of the needs and interests of rural residents. It is
15 also of critical importance to the integrity of the entire state to
16 identify ways that urban and rural economies of Washington can function
17 to complement each other and reinforce the quality of life available to
18 residents."

19 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** There is established formal recognition
20 of the efforts of the Washington state rural development council, in
21 operation since February of 1991, through the voluntary support of
22 state, federal, and local government and private businesses and
23 citizens. In acknowledgment and recognition of these efforts all
24 agencies and branches of state government that operate programs in
25 rural areas of the state are encouraged to actively participate in the
26 activities of the council."

1 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The Washington state rural development
2 council is a partnership among state, federal, and local governments,
3 tribal governments, and the public and private sectors, and is
4 organized to meet the needs of all members of the partnership. The
5 council is organized as a mutual effort to mitigate negative impacts
6 upon rural communities, enhance their viability and self reliance, and
7 look for ways to coordinate, synchronize, or consolidate the efforts of
8 all who serve rural communities and citizens."

9 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The Washington state rural development
10 council's mission has been determined by public forum to be: According
11 to locally conceived and driven strategies, to coordinate and apply
12 private, local, state, tribal, and federal resources to support the
13 development of viable, self-reliant rural communities. A primary
14 function of the council is that of facilitator, serving as a forum for
15 communication between the council's constituencies and stakeholders;
16 change agent, acting as both a sounding board for emerging issues and
17 an advocate for change in policies and rules that inhibit the viability
18 of rural communities; and resource developer, serving to maximize
19 knowledge of discretionary resources throughout rural areas of the
20 state."

21 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** The state's share of the costs incurred
22 by the Washington state rural development council shall be limited to
23 amounts appropriated by the state for its use or amounts allocated by
24 state departments for support of the council."

25 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** The objectives of the Washington state
26 rural development council should be consistent with the council's

1 mission and honor the perspectives of the partnership in its
2 undertaking of the following:

3 (1) Providing a forum for policy analysis concerning existing and
4 proposed rural development strategies in Washington;

5 (2) Promoting coordination and cooperation between all levels of
6 government, and private, public, and nonprofit groups in order to
7 promote rural economic vitality;

8 (3) Facilitating communication between rural communities and
9 organizations and other sectors of the state and nation;

10 (4) Promoting the establishment of rural-urban linkage partnerships
11 that will be mutually beneficial to both areas in alleviating the
12 distress of rapid economic growth or decline and promoting economic
13 vitality;

14 (5) Identifying and addressing federal, state, and local
15 administrative barriers that hinder economic vitality;

16 (6) Identifying and providing opportunities to educate and inform
17 state, federal, and local policy and program staff as to the needs and
18 special development context of rural Washington; and

19 (7) Promoting the establishment of educational and training
20 opportunities for individuals in rural areas."

21 "NEW SECTION. Sec. 7. The Washington state rural development
22 council shall be located in a branch or agency of either the federal or
23 state government according to a memorandum of understanding between the
24 host agency and the partners represented on the council."

25 "NEW SECTION. Sec. 8. Economic vitality is an integral
26 component of each community in the state of Washington and is necessary
27 to ensure a high standard of living and job opportunities for each
28 citizen of the state. During the 1980's, the Puget Sound region has

1 experienced dramatic growth as compared to a moderate increase or even
2 economic decline in rural parts of the state. This economic disparity
3 has provided a unique opportunity for a meaningful economic partnership
4 between both areas of Washington that will assist in transferring
5 excessive business growth in the Puget Sound to rural areas that are in
6 need of increased business activity. The intent of this act in
7 establishing this partnership is to improve the quality of life across
8 Washington and provide quality job opportunities for each citizen of
9 the state."

10 "Sec. 9. RCW 43.63A.560 and 1990 1st ex.s. c 17 s 67 are each
11 amended to read as follows:

12 (1) The department shall administer a grant program which makes
13 grants to (~~local~~) nonprofit organizations for rural economic
14 development or for sharing economic growth outside the Puget Sound
15 region. The grants shall be used to: (a) Develop urban-rural links;
16 (b) build local capacity for economic growth; (~~or~~) (c) improve the
17 export of products or services from rural areas to locations outside
18 the United States; or (d) assist business in high-growth urban areas to
19 locate new or expanded business operations in rural communities
20 throughout the state.

21 (2) The department shall consult with, and if necessary form an
22 advisory committee including, a diverse group of private sector
23 representatives including, but not limited to, major corporations,
24 commercial financial institutions, venture capitalists, small
25 businesses, natural resource businesses, and developers to determine
26 what opportunities for new investment and business growth might be
27 available for areas outside high-growth counties. The department shall
28 also consult with the department of trade and economic development.

1 The department shall seek to maximize and link new investment
2 opportunities to grant projects under this section.

3 (3) The department shall establish a project within the grant
4 program to assist businesses in high-growth urban areas in the Puget
5 Sound region to locate new or expanded business operations in rural
6 communities throughout the state. The department shall endeavor to
7 establish contracts with local governments, including local planning
8 departments, nonprofit agencies, or for-profit corporations that wish
9 to provide businesses in their high growth urban areas alternative
10 locations. The department may also establish contracts with local
11 governments including planning departments, nonprofit agencies, or for-
12 profit corporations that wish to assist businesses in locating in their
13 rural communities.

14 (4) The department may enact rules to carry out this section."

15 "NEW SECTION. Sec. 10. A new section is added to chapter 43.63A
16 RCW to read as follows:

17 The department shall develop contract provisions in consultation
18 with local governments, nonprofit agencies, or for-profit corporations
19 that outline the following: The scope and degree of services provided
20 to new or expanding businesses; the time frame in which services are
21 provided to businesses; the responsibility of urban and rural
22 contractors to ensure complementary, nonduplicative services; and
23 guidelines for evaluating effectiveness of the program."

24 "NEW SECTION. Sec. 11. A new section is added to chapter 43.63A
25 RCW to read as follows:

26 The department, in consultation and advice of the departments of
27 trade and economic development, employment security, and revenue, shall
28 provide the contract parties with general information on possible rural

1 industrial sites, local labor market information, and local economic
2 conditions."

3 "NEW SECTION. Sec. 12. The department shall report to the
4 legislature by January 1, 1993, on the effectiveness of the project
5 under RCW 43.63A.560(3) and make recommendations on whether the project
6 should be continued, maintained, or expanded."

7 "NEW SECTION. Sec. 13. Sections 2 through 7 of this act are
8 each added to chapter 43.63A RCW."

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12 On page 1, line 1 of the title, after "Relating to" strike the
13 remainder of the title and insert "rural development; amending RCW
14 43.63A.560; adding new sections to chapter 43.63A RCW; and creating new
15 sections."