
SECOND SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1739

State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1994 Regular Session

By House Committee on State Government (originally sponsored by Representatives Finkbeiner, Dyer, Heavey, Quall, Cothorn, Johanson, Springer, Brumsickle, Schoesler, Dunshee, H. Myers, Sheldon, Romero, Pruitt, G. Fisher, Orr, Roland, Lemmon and Anderson)

Read first time 02/04/94.

1 AN ACT Relating to the citizen suggestion program; amending RCW
2 41.60.010 and 41.60.160; and adding new sections to chapter 41.60 RCW.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 41.60.010 and 1993 c 467 s 1 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 As used in this chapter:

7 (1) "Board" means the productivity board.

8 (2) "Business" has the same meaning as the definition of "person"
9 and "company" in RCW 82.04.030.

10 (3) "Citizen" means a person living in the state who intends to
11 reside in the state.

12 (4) "Citizen suggestion program" means the program developed by the
13 board under section 2 of this act.

14 (5) "Employee suggestion program" means the program developed by
15 the board under RCW 41.60.020.

16 (~~(3)~~) (6) "Teamwork incentive program" means the program
17 developed by the board under RCW 41.60.100 through 41.60.120.

18 (~~(4)~~) (7) "State employees" means present employees in state
19 agencies and institutions of higher education except for elected

1 officials, directors of such agencies and institutions, and their
2 confidential secretaries and administrative assistants and others
3 specifically ruled ineligible by the rules of the productivity board.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 41.60 RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 (1) Before January 1, 1995, the board shall formulate and establish
7 a citizen suggestion program to encourage and reward meritorious
8 suggestions by citizens that will promote efficiency and economy in the
9 performance of any function of state government. The board shall
10 administer the program under this chapter and shall encourage citizens
11 to submit suggestions beginning January 1, 1995. The program shall
12 include provisions for the processing of suggestions having multi-
13 agency impact and postimplementation auditing of suggestions for fiscal
14 accountability.

15 (2) The board shall make the final determination as to whether a
16 citizen suggestion award will be made and shall determine the nature
17 and extent of the award.

18 (3) Cash awards for suggestions generating net savings to the state
19 shall be ten percent of the net savings.

20 (4) No award may be granted in excess of six hundred dollars.

21 (5) If the suggestion is significantly modified when implemented,
22 the percentage specified in subsection (3) of this section may be
23 decreased at the option of the board.

24 (6) The board shall establish guidelines for making awards for
25 suggestions for which benefits to the state are intangible or for which
26 benefits cannot be calculated.

27 (7) Funds for the awards shall be drawn from the appropriation of
28 the agency benefiting from the citizen's suggestion. If the suggestion
29 reduces costs to a nonappropriated fund or reduces costs paid without
30 appropriation from a nonappropriated portion of an appropriated fund,
31 an award may be paid from the benefiting fund or account without
32 appropriation.

33 **Sec. 3.** RCW 41.60.160 and 1993 c 467 s 7 are each amended to read
34 as follows:

35 No award may be made under this chapter to:

36 (1) Any elected state official or state agency director;

1 (2) A person who owns or is employed by a business that will
2 receive a financial benefit if the citizen suggestion were implemented;
3 or

4 (3) A person who could be considered as acting as an agent on
5 behalf of a business that would receive a financial benefit if the
6 citizen suggestion were implemented.

7 NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. A new section is added to chapter 41.60 RCW
8 to read as follows:

9 (1) If the productivity board decides not to provide a monetary
10 award for a citizen's suggestion or decides to award an amount that the
11 citizen believes to be inadequate, the citizen or a representative of
12 the citizen may, by written appeal, request that the board reconsider
13 its decision. The appeal shall be filed by mail and shall be
14 postmarked within thirty calendar days of the date of the board's
15 decision. An appeal filed with the board shall specify the reasons a
16 cash award or a particular cash award should be granted to the citizen.
17 It may identify the monetary amount sought in an award.

18 (2) The productivity board shall consider each such appeal. The
19 determination of the board regarding an appeal is final.

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