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SENATE BILL 5661

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State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1993 Regular Session

By Senators Skratek, Bluechel, Erwin, A. Smith, Sheldon, Winsley and M. Rasmussen

Read first time 02/08/93. Referred to Committee on Trade, Technology & Economic Development.

1 AN ACT Relating to the establishment of an advanced technology  
2 network; adding a new chapter to Title 43 RCW; and creating a new  
3 section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds:

6 (1) The growth and development of small and medium-sized businesses  
7 in this state are necessary to ensure the economic health of the state  
8 and its citizens;

9 (2) The development and commercialization of new technology plays  
10 an important role in the growth and development of small and medium-  
11 sized businesses;

12 (3) The adoption of new products and processes by existing  
13 businesses increases the productivity and competitiveness of these  
14 businesses;

15 (4) There are numerous public and private entities within the state  
16 that can assist small and medium-sized businesses in the development  
17 and utilization of new products and processes; and

1 (5) Small and medium-sized businesses are often unaware of the  
2 entities that can provide technology transfer and industrial extension  
3 and modernization assistance to them.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The department of trade and economic  
5 development shall conduct an assessment of the technology transfer, and  
6 industrial extension and modernization capabilities existing in all  
7 federal, state, and private research institutions, state universities,  
8 state community and technical colleges, and state agencies. When  
9 possible, the department shall categorize capabilities by the sector  
10 served by the activities. This assessment shall be used in the  
11 development of a state-wide advanced technology network that shall  
12 assist small and medium-sized businesses in accessing and utilizing  
13 research and modernization capabilities available in the state.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) The state technology coordinating  
15 council is created. It has the following duties and responsibilities:

16 (a) Participate in the development of a state-wide advanced  
17 technology network that provides access by small and medium-sized  
18 businesses to technology transfer, and industrial extension and  
19 modernization capabilities available within this state;

20 (b) Develop consortia of technology transfer and industrial  
21 extension and modernization providers;

22 (c) Improve delivery of technology transfer and industrial  
23 extension and modernization services to small and medium-sized  
24 businesses within the state;

25 (d) Identify gaps in the delivery of technology transfer and  
26 industrial extension and modernization services to small and medium-  
27 sized businesses;

28 (e) Cooperate in efforts to access federal funding for improving  
29 the delivery of technology transfer and industrial extension and  
30 modernization services via the advanced technology network;

31 (f) Work with local economic development providers to improve the  
32 delivery of services;

33 (g) Provide a forum for exchanging information about ongoing  
34 research activities occurring within the state; and

35 (h) Coordinate activities with state-funded business assistance  
36 programs.

1 (2) The department of trade and economic development shall provide  
2 the staffing for the state technology coordinating council.

3 (3) The state technology coordinating council shall consist of the  
4 following members: (a) The executive director of the Washington  
5 technology center; (b) the executive director of the Spokane  
6 intercollegiate research and technology institute; (c) one  
7 representative of the office of technology transfer at the University  
8 of Washington; (d) one representative of the Washington research  
9 foundation at the University of Washington; (e) one representative of  
10 the Washington State University research foundation; (f) the director  
11 of the advanced technology training center at Edmonds and Everett  
12 Community College; (g) one representative from each of the community  
13 and technical colleges conducting technology transfer and industrial  
14 extension and modernization activities; (h) one representative each  
15 from Eastern Washington University and Western Washington University  
16 who are involved in technology transfer or industrial extension and  
17 modernization activities; (i) one representative of Battelle/Pacific  
18 Northwest laboratories; (j) one representative of the Fred Hutchinson  
19 research center; (k) the director of the clean Washington center; (l)  
20 the director of the forest products division in the department of trade  
21 and economic development; (m) one representative of the small business  
22 development center; (n) one representative of the business assistance  
23 center; (o) one representative of the software association; (p) one  
24 representative of the environmental technology association; and (q) one  
25 representative of the biotechnology association. Members shall be  
26 appointed by the governor.

27 (4) The department of trade and economic development shall provide  
28 an annual report to the governor, the house of representatives trade  
29 and housing committee and the senate trade, technology, and economic  
30 development committee on the activities of the state technology  
31 coordinating council by January 30th of each year.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** Sections 2 and 3 of this act shall  
33 constitute a new chapter in Title 43 RCW.

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