

HCR 4405 - H AMD

By Representative Conway

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

3 "WHEREAS, Offshore outsourcing of public and private sector
4 jobs has created concern about job loss in Washington; and

5 WHEREAS, Some contracts entered into by state agencies are
6 being performed, in whole or in part, outside the United States;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, The legislature is concerned that these state
9 contracts are being entered into with little, if any, legislative
10 oversight; and

11 WHEREAS, Offshore outsourcing of private sector jobs is
12 creating concern about unemployment in our state and demands on our
13 public services; and

14 WHEREAS, Offshore outsourcing of public and private sector work
15 may be eroding job opportunities and continuing to affect
16 Washington families and communities already suffering from high
17 unemployment and a jobless recovery; and

18 WHEREAS, Offshore outsourcing may put at risk the privacy of
19 medical records, financial data, and other personal information of
20 Washington citizens; and

21 WHEREAS, Offshore outsourcing may impact state and local tax
22 revenues needed to provide for the basic education, as well as to
23 protect the public health and safety, of Washington citizens; and

24 WHEREAS, Offshore outsourcing may result in transfers of
25 knowledge and core functions that curb entrepreneurial activities
26 and limit technological innovation essential to the future economic
27 success of Washington businesses; and

28 WHEREAS, The legislature invests significant public resources
29 in work force training and retraining, and wants to ensure that
30 students and workers who benefit from these investments have
31 opportunities to climb career ladders from entry-level jobs to

1 family-wage jobs, and to enjoy the prosperity that is the American
2 dream; and

3 WHEREAS, The legislature has also invested significant public
4 resources in business development, recruitment, and retention, and
5 wants to ensure that corporations that benefit from these
6 investments are accountable to the legislature and the citizens of
7 Washington state; and

8 WHEREAS, The legislature is concerned about and wants to
9 examine the potential consequences of offshore outsourcing;

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the House of Representatives
11 of the state of Washington, the Senate concurring, That a study of
12 offshore outsourcing be conducted to evaluate the following issues:

13 The degree to which state contracts, and any subcontracts
14 awarded under such contracts, are being performed at locations
15 outside the United States;

16 The extent to which the following are adequate to protect
17 legislative authority over state procurement: The process for
18 making and extending the state's commitments under the agreement on
19 government procurement of the world trade organization and other
20 international trade agreements; and the exceptions in the agreement
21 on government procurement of the world trade organization and other
22 international trade agreements;

23 The applicability of international trade agreements to state
24 procurement policies;

25 The compliance of signatories to such agreements with
26 international and state child labor, environmental protection,
27 human rights, and labor standards;

28 The effects of such agreements on domestic preferences adopted
29 by signatories to such agreements;

30 The cost to the state of retraining workers who are separated
31 from employment because their positions were outsourced to
32 locations outside the United States, and issues relative to their
33 eligibility for training benefits under RCW 50.22.150;

34 The extent to which state contracts performed at locations
35 outside the United States involve solicitation or disclosure of
36 personal information; and

37 The relationship between state labor market conditions,
38 including unemployment rate and implications for trade-dependent
39 industries, and offshore outsourcing decisions; and

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the following issues shall be
2 examined, subject to available funding:

3 The economic benefit of awarding personal services, purchased
4 services, civil service, and public works contracts to Washington
5 companies, including: The number of total employment positions;
6 the number of full-time, part-time, and temporary employment
7 positions as a percent of total employment; the number of
8 employment positions earning less than twenty thousand dollars,
9 between twenty thousand dollars and thirty thousand dollars,
10 between thirty thousand dollars and forty thousand dollars, between
11 forty thousand dollars and fifty thousand dollars, between fifty
12 thousand dollars and sixty thousand dollars, and more than sixty
13 thousand dollars; and the number of employment positions that have
14 employer-provided medical, dental, and retirement benefits, by each
15 of the wage bands; and

16 The economic impacts of performing work under personal
17 services, purchased services, civil service, and public works
18 contracts in Washington, including: The multiplier effect on state
19 and local tax revenues; and the multiplier effect on state and
20 local employment levels; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the study be conducted by a joint
22 task force of the House of Representatives and the Senate
23 consisting of the following: Four representatives to be appointed
24 by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, four
25 representatives to be appointed by the minority leader of the House
26 of Representatives, four senators to be appointed by the majority
27 leader of the Senate, and four senators to be appointed by the
28 minority leader of the Senate; and

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the joint task force, in
30 conjunction with the private sector, consult with and be advised
31 and monitored by an advisory committee consisting of ten members:
32 Three members representing labor, appointed jointly by the
33 President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of
34 Representatives, from a list of names recommended by a statewide
35 organization representing a cross-section and majority of organized
36 labor in the state; three members representing business, one of
37 whom shall represent small business, appointed jointly by the
38 President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of
39 Representatives, from a list of names recommended by a statewide

1 organization of employers representing a majority of employers of
2 the state; one member representing the office of the Washington
3 state trade representative; one member representing an
4 international human rights organization; one member representing an
5 international environmental protection organization; and one member
6 representing the public; and

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the findings and recommendations
8 of the joint task force shall be reported to the house of
9 representatives committees on commerce and labor, state government,
10 operations and accountability, technology, energy and
11 communications, economic development, agriculture and trade, and
12 the senate committees on labor, commerce, research and development,
13 international trade and economic development, and government
14 operations and elections, or their successor committees, by
15 December 1, 2005."

EFFECT: Makes examination of the following issues subject to available funding: (1) The economic benefit of awarding certain contracts to Washington companies; and (2) the economic impacts of performing work under certain contracts in Washington.