

SHB 2420 - S COMM AMD

By Committee on Economic Development, Trade & Innovation

ADOPTED 02/27/2010

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

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that:

4 (a) Washington's forest products industry plays a critical economic  
5 and environmental role in the state. The industry provides a wide  
6 range of services and goods both to Washingtonians and people around  
7 the world and is vital to the well-being and lifestyle of the people of  
8 the state of Washington; and

9 (b) It is in the best interest of the state to support and enhance  
10 the forest products industry.

11 (2) The legislature further finds that the state's forest practices  
12 are sustainably managed according to some of the most stringent  
13 riparian growing and harvest rules of any state in the nation or in the  
14 world, and that the state of Washington has received fifty-year  
15 assurances from the federal government that the state's forest  
16 practices satisfy the requirements of the federal endangered species  
17 act for aquatic species. As part of their environmental stewardship,  
18 forest landowners in Washington have repaired or removed nearly three  
19 thousand fish passage barriers, returned nearly twenty-five hundred  
20 miles of forest roads to their natural condition, and opened up nearly  
21 fifteen hundred miles of riparian salmonid habitat.

22 (3) The legislature further finds that Washington's forests  
23 naturally create habitat for fish and wildlife, clean water, and carbon  
24 storage; all environmental benefits that are lost when land is  
25 converted out of working forestry into another use. In recognition of  
26 forestry's benefits, the international panel on climate change has  
27 reported that a sustainable forest management strategy aimed at  
28 maintaining or increasing forest carbon stocks, while producing an  
29 annual sustained yield of timber, fiber, wood products, or energy from

1 the forest, will generate the largest sustained carbon mitigation  
2 benefit.

3 (4) The legislature further finds that the forest products industry  
4 is a seventeen billion dollar industry, making it Washington's second  
5 largest manufacturing industry. The forest products industry alone  
6 provides nearly forty-five thousand direct jobs and one hundred  
7 sixty-two thousand indirect jobs, many located in rural areas.

8 (5) The legislature further finds that working forests help  
9 generate wealth through recreation and tourism, the retention and  
10 creation of green jobs, and through the production of wood products and  
11 energy, a finding supported by the United States secretary of  
12 agriculture.

13 **Sec. 2.** RCW 43.330.310 and 2008 c 14 s 9 are each amended to read  
14 as follows:

15 (1) The legislature establishes a comprehensive green economy jobs  
16 growth initiative based on the goal of, by 2020, increasing the number  
17 of green economy jobs to twenty-five thousand from the eight thousand  
18 four hundred green economy jobs the state had in 2004.

19 (2) The department, in consultation with the employment security  
20 department, the state workforce training and education coordinating  
21 board, the state board (~~(of—[for])~~) for community and technical  
22 colleges, and the higher education coordinating board, shall develop a  
23 defined list of terms, consistent with current workforce and economic  
24 development terms, associated with green economy industries and jobs.

25 (3)(a) The employment security department, in consultation with the  
26 department, the state workforce training and education coordinating  
27 board, the state board for community and technical colleges, the higher  
28 education coordinating board, Washington State University small  
29 business development center, and the Washington State University  
30 extension energy program, shall conduct labor market research to  
31 analyze the current labor market and projected job growth in the green  
32 economy, the current and projected recruitment and skill requirement of  
33 green economy industry employers, the wage and benefits ranges of jobs  
34 within green economy industries, and the education and training  
35 requirements of entry-level and incumbent workers in those industries.

36 (i) The employment security department shall conduct an analysis of  
37 occupations in the forest products industry to: (A) Determine key

1 growth factors and employment projections in the industry; and (B)  
2 define the education and skill standards required for current and  
3 emerging green occupations in the industry.

4 (ii) The term "forest products industry" must be given a broad  
5 interpretation when implementing (a)(i) of this subsection and  
6 includes, but is not limited to, businesses that grow, manage, harvest,  
7 transport, and process forest, wood, and paper products.

8 (b) The University of Washington business and economic development  
9 center shall: Analyze the current opportunities for and participation  
10 in the green economy by minority and women-owned business enterprises  
11 in Washington; identify existing barriers to their successful  
12 participation in the green economy; and develop strategies with  
13 specific policy recommendations to improve their successful  
14 participation in the green economy. The research may be informed by  
15 the research of the Puget Sound regional council prosperity  
16 partnership, as well as other entities. The University of Washington  
17 business and economic development center shall report to the  
18 appropriate committees of the house of representatives and the senate  
19 on their research, analysis, and recommendations by December 1, 2008.

20 (4) Based on the findings from subsection (3) of this section, the  
21 employment security department, in consultation with the department and  
22 taking into account the requirements and goals of chapter 14, Laws of  
23 2008 and other state clean energy and energy efficiency policies, shall  
24 propose which industries will be considered high-demand green  
25 industries, based on current and projected job creation and their  
26 strategic importance to the development of the state's green economy.  
27 The employment security department and the department shall take into  
28 account which jobs within green economy industries will be considered  
29 high-wage occupations and occupations that are part of career pathways  
30 to the same, based on family-sustaining wage and benefits ranges.  
31 These designations, and the results of the employment security  
32 department's broader labor market research, shall inform the planning  
33 and strategic direction of the department, the state workforce training  
34 and education coordinating board, the state board for community and  
35 technical colleges, and the higher education coordinating board.

36 (5) The department shall identify emerging technologies and  
37 innovations that are likely to contribute to advancements in the green

1 economy, including the activities in designated innovation partnership  
2 zones established in RCW 43.330.270.

3 (6) The department, consistent with the priorities established by  
4 the state economic development commission, shall:

5 (a) Develop targeting criteria for existing investments, and make  
6 recommendations for new or expanded financial incentives and  
7 comprehensive strategies, to recruit, retain, and expand green economy  
8 industries and small businesses; and

9 (b) Make recommendations for new or expanded financial incentives  
10 and comprehensive strategies to stimulate research and development of  
11 green technology and innovation, including designating innovation  
12 partnership zones linked to the green economy.

13 (7) For the purposes of this section, "target populations" means  
14 (a) entry-level or incumbent workers in high-demand green industries  
15 who are in, or are preparing for, high-wage occupations; (b) dislocated  
16 workers in declining industries who may be retrained for high-wage  
17 occupations in high-demand green industries; (c) dislocated  
18 agriculture, timber, or energy sector workers who may be retrained for  
19 high-wage occupations in high-demand green industries; (d) eligible  
20 veterans or national guard members; (e) disadvantaged populations; or  
21 (f) anyone eligible to participate in the state opportunity grant  
22 program under RCW 28B.50.271.

23 (8) The legislature directs the state workforce training and  
24 education coordinating board to create and pilot green industry skill  
25 panels. These panels shall consist of business representatives from:  
26 Green industry sectors ((related to clean energy)), including but not  
27 limited to forest product companies, companies engaged in energy  
28 efficiency and renewable energy production, companies engaged in  
29 pollution prevention, reduction, and mitigation, and companies engaged  
30 in green building work and green transportation; labor unions  
31 representing workers in those industries or labor affiliates  
32 administering state-approved, joint apprenticeship programs or labor-  
33 management partnership programs that train workers for these  
34 industries((τ))i state and local veterans agencies((τ))i employer  
35 associations((τ))i educational institutions((τ))i and local workforce  
36 development councils within the region that the panels propose to  
37 operate((τ))i and other key stakeholders as determined by the  
38 applicant. Any of these stakeholder organizations are eligible to

1 receive grants under this section and serve as the intermediary that  
2 convenes and leads the panel. Panel applicants must provide labor  
3 market and industry analysis that demonstrates high demand, or demand  
4 of strategic importance to the development of the state's clean energy  
5 economy as identified in this section, for high-wage occupations, or  
6 occupations that are part of career pathways to the same, within the  
7 relevant industry sector. The panel shall:

8 (a) Conduct labor market and industry analyses, in consultation  
9 with the employment security department, and drawing on the findings of  
10 its research when available;

11 (b) Plan strategies to meet the recruitment and training needs of  
12 the industry and small businesses; and

13 (c) Leverage and align other public and private funding sources.

14 (9) The green industries jobs training account is created in the  
15 state treasury. Moneys from the account must be utilized to supplement  
16 the state opportunity grant program established under RCW 28B.50.271.  
17 All receipts from appropriations directed to the account must be  
18 deposited into the account. Expenditures from the account may be used  
19 only for the activities identified in this subsection. The state board  
20 for community and technical colleges, in consultation with the state  
21 workforce training and education coordinating board, informed by the  
22 research of the employment security department and the strategies  
23 developed in this section, may authorize expenditures from the account.  
24 The state board for community and technical colleges must distribute  
25 grants from the account on a competitive basis.

26 (a)(i) Allowable uses of these grant funds, which should be used  
27 when other public or private funds are insufficient or unavailable, may  
28 include:

29 (A) Curriculum development;

30 (B) Transitional jobs strategies for dislocated workers in  
31 declining industries who may be retrained for high-wage occupations in  
32 green industries;

33 (C) Workforce education to target populations; and

34 (D) Adult basic and remedial education as necessary linked to  
35 occupation skills training.

36 (ii) Allowable uses of these grant funds do not include student  
37 assistance and support services available through the state opportunity  
38 grant program under RCW 28B.50.271.

1 (b) Applicants eligible to receive these grants may be any  
2 organization or a partnership of organizations that has demonstrated  
3 expertise in:

4 (i) Implementing effective education and training programs that  
5 meet industry demand; and

6 (ii) Recruiting and supporting, to successful completion of those  
7 training programs carried out under these grants, the target  
8 populations of workers.

9 (c) In awarding grants from the green industries jobs training  
10 account, the state board for community and technical colleges shall  
11 give priority to applicants that demonstrate the ability to:

12 (i) Use labor market and industry analysis developed by the  
13 employment security department and green industry skill panels in the  
14 design and delivery of the relevant education and training program, and  
15 otherwise utilize strategies developed by green industry (~~skills~~  
16 ~~{skill}~~) skill panels;

17 (ii) Leverage and align existing public programs and resources and  
18 private resources toward the goal of recruiting, supporting, educating,  
19 and training target populations of workers;

20 (iii) Work collaboratively with other relevant stakeholders in the  
21 regional economy;

22 (iv) Link adult basic and remedial education, where necessary, with  
23 occupation skills training;

24 (v) Involve employers and, where applicable, labor unions in the  
25 determination of relevant skills and competencies and, where relevant,  
26 the validation of career pathways; and

27 (vi) Ensure that supportive services, where necessary, are  
28 integrated with education and training and are delivered by  
29 organizations with direct access to and experience with the targeted  
30 population of workers.

31 **Sec. 3.** RCW 43.330.375 and 2009 c 536 s 4 are each amended to read  
32 as follows:

33 (1) The department and the workforce board(~~(, in consultation with~~  
34 ~~the leadership team,)) must:~~

35 (a) Coordinate efforts across the state to ensure that federal  
36 training and education funds are captured and deployed in a focused and

1 effective manner in order to support green economy projects and  
2 accomplish the goals of the evergreen jobs initiative;

3 (b) Accelerate and coordinate efforts by state and local  
4 organizations to identify, apply for, and secure all sources of funds,  
5 particularly those created by the 2009 American recovery and  
6 reinvestment act, and to ensure that distributions of funding to local  
7 organizations are allocated in a manner that is time-efficient and  
8 user-friendly for the local organizations. Local organizations  
9 eligible to receive support include but are not limited to:

10 (i) Associate development organizations;

11 (ii) Workforce development councils;

12 (iii) Public utility districts; and

13 (iv) Community action agencies;

14 (c) Support green economy projects at both the state and local  
15 level by developing a process and a framework to provide, at a minimum:

16 (i) Administrative and technical assistance;

17 (ii) Assistance with and expediting of permit processes; and

18 (iii) Priority consideration of opportunities leading to exportable  
19 green economy goods and services, including renewable energy  
20 technology;

21 (d) Coordinate local and state implementation of projects using  
22 federal funds to ensure implementation is time-efficient and user-  
23 friendly for local organizations;

24 (e) Emphasize through both support and outreach efforts, projects  
25 that:

26 (i) Have a strong and lasting economic or environmental impact;

27 (ii) Lead to a domestically or internationally exportable good or  
28 service, including renewable energy technology;

29 (iii) Create training programs leading to a credential,  
30 certificate, or degree in a green economy field;

31 (iv) Strengthen the state's competitiveness in a particular sector  
32 or cluster of the green economy;

33 (v) Create employment opportunities for veterans, members of the  
34 national guard, and low-income and disadvantaged populations;

35 (vi) Comply with prevailing wage provisions of chapter 39.12 RCW;

36 (vii) Ensure at least fifteen percent of labor hours are performed  
37 by apprentices;

1 (f) Identify emerging technologies and innovations that are likely  
2 to contribute to advancements in the green economy, including the  
3 activities in designated innovation partnership zones established in  
4 RCW 43.330.270;

5 (g) Identify barriers to the growth of green jobs in traditional  
6 industries such as the forest products industry;

7 (h) Identify statewide performance metrics for projects receiving  
8 agency assistance. Such metrics may include:

9 (i) The number of new green jobs created each year, their wage  
10 levels, and, to the extent determinable, the percentage of new green  
11 jobs filled by veterans, members of the national guard, and low-income  
12 and disadvantaged populations;

13 (ii) The total amount of new federal funding secured, the  
14 respective amounts allocated to the state and local levels, and the  
15 timeliness of deployment of new funding by state agencies to the local  
16 level;

17 (iii) The timeliness of state deployment of funds and support to  
18 local organizations; and

19 (iv) If available, the completion rates, time to completion, and  
20 training-related placement rates for green economy postsecondary  
21 training programs;

22 ~~((h))~~ (i) Identify strategies to allocate existing and new  
23 funding streams for green economy workforce training programs and  
24 education to emphasize those leading to a credential, certificate, or  
25 degree in a green economy field;

26 ~~((i))~~ (j) Identify and implement strategies to allocate existing  
27 and new funding streams for workforce development councils and  
28 associate development organizations to increase their effectiveness and  
29 efficiency and increase local capacity to respond rapidly and  
30 comprehensively to opportunities to attract green jobs to local  
31 communities;

32 ~~((j))~~ (k) Develop targeting criteria for existing investments  
33 that are consistent with the economic development commission's economic  
34 development strategy and the goals of this section and RCW 28C.18.170,  
35 28B.50.281, and 49.04.200; and

36 ~~((k))~~ (l) Make and support outreach efforts so that residents of  
37 Washington, particularly members of target populations, become aware of



1 educational and employment opportunities identified and funded through  
2 the evergreen jobs act.

3 (2) The department and the workforce board(~~(, in consultation with~~  
4 ~~the leadership team,~~) must provide semiannual performance reports to  
5 the governor and appropriate committees of the legislature on:

6 (a) Actual statewide performance based on the performance measures  
7 identified in subsection (1)(~~(g)~~) (h) of this section;

8 (b) How the state is emphasizing and supporting projects that lead  
9 to a domestically or internationally exportable good or service,  
10 including renewable energy technology;

11 (c) A list of projects supported, created, or funded in furtherance  
12 of the goals of the evergreen jobs initiative and the actions taken by  
13 state and local organizations, including the effectiveness of state  
14 agency support provided to local organizations as directed in  
15 subsection (1)(b) and (c) of this section;

16 (d) Recommendations for new or expanded financial incentives and  
17 comprehensive strategies to:

18 (i) Recruit, retain, and expand green economy industries and small  
19 businesses; and

20 (ii) Stimulate research and development of green technology and  
21 innovation, which may include designating innovation partnership zones  
22 linked to the green economy;

23 (e) Any information that associate development organizations and  
24 workforce development councils choose to provide to appropriate  
25 legislative committees regarding the effectiveness, timeliness, and  
26 coordination of support provided by state agencies under this section  
27 and RCW 28C.18.170, 28B.50.281, and 49.04.200; and

28 (f) Any recommended statutory changes necessary to increase the  
29 effectiveness of the evergreen jobs initiative and state responsiveness  
30 to local agencies and organizations.

31 (3) The definitions, designations, and results of the employment  
32 security department's broader labor market research under RCW  
33 43.330.010 shall inform the planning and strategic direction of the  
34 department, the state workforce training and education coordinating  
35 board, the state board for community and technical colleges, and the  
36 higher education coordinating board."

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By Committee on Economic Development, Trade & Innovation

**ADOPTED 02/27/2010**

1           On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "base;" strike the remainder  
2 of the title and insert "amending RCW 43.330.310 and 43.330.375; and  
3 creating a new section."

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