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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5255**

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**State of Washington 64th Legislature 2015 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Financial Institutions & Insurance (originally sponsored by Senators Hasegawa, McCoy, Chase, Hatfield, and Keiser; by request of Office of Minority and Women's Business Enterprises)

AN ACT Relating to the linked deposit program; and reenacting and amending RCW 43.86A.060.

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

**Sec.**  RCW 43.86A.060 and 2009 c 385 s 3 and 2009 c 384 s 1 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

(1) The state treasurer shall establish a linked deposit program for investment of deposits in qualified public depositaries. As a condition of participating in the program, qualified public depositaries must make qualifying loans as provided in this section. The state treasurer may purchase a certificate of deposit that is equal to the amount of the qualifying loan made by the qualified public depositary or may purchase a certificate of deposit that is equal to the aggregate amount of two or more qualifying loans made by one or more qualified public depositaries.

(2) Qualifying loans made under this section are those:

(a) Having terms that do not exceed ten years;

(b) Where an individual loan does not exceed one million dollars;

(c)(i) That are made to a minority or women's business enterprise that has received state certification under chapter 39.19 RCW;

(ii) That are made to a veteran-owned business that has received state certification under RCW 43.60A.190; or

(iii) That are made to a community development financial institution that is: (A) Certified by the United States department of the treasury pursuant to 12 U.S.C. Sec. 4701 et seq.; and (B) using that loan to make qualifying loans under (c)(i) of this subsection;

(d) Where the interest rate on the loan to the minority or women's business enterprise or veteran-owned business does not exceed an interest rate that is two hundred basis points below the interest rate the qualified public depositary would charge for a loan for a similar purpose and a similar term, except that, if the preference given by the state treasurer to the qualified public depositary under subsection ((~~(3)~~)) (4) of this section is less than two hundred basis points, the qualified public depositary may reduce the preference given on the loan by an amount that corresponds to the reduction in preference below two hundred basis points given to the qualified public depositary; and

(e) Where the points or fees charged at loan closing do not exceed one percent of the loan amount.

(3) In order to qualify for a loan under this section, a minority or women's business enterprise or veteran-owned business must demonstrate the loan will result in the creation of at least five jobs over the life of the loan. Funds must be used for active business pursuits and may not be used for passive investment activities.

(4) In setting interest rates of time certificate of deposits, the state treasurer shall offer rates so that a two hundred basis point preference will be given to the qualified public depositary, except that the treasurer may lower the amount of the preference to ensure that the effective interest rate on the deposit is not less than zero percent.

((~~(4)~~)) (5) Upon notification by the state treasurer that a minority or women's business enterprise is no longer certified under chapter 39.19 RCW or that a veteran-owned business is no longer certified under RCW 43.60A.190, the qualified public depositary shall reduce the amount of qualifying loans by the outstanding balance of the loan made under this section to the minority or women's business enterprise or the veteran-owned business, as applicable.

((~~(5)~~)) (6) The director of the office of minority and women's business enterprises has the authority to adopt rules to:

(a) Ensure that when making a qualified loan under the linked deposit program, businesses that have never received a loan under the linked deposit program are given first priority;

(b) Limit the total principal loan amount that any one business receives in qualified loans under the linked deposit program over the lifetime of the businesses;

(c) Limit the total principal loan amount that an owner of one or more businesses receives in qualified loans under the linked deposit program during the owner's lifetime;

(d) Limit the total amount of any one qualified loan made under the linked deposit program; and

(e) Ensure that loans made by community development financial institutions are qualifying loans under subsection (2)(c)(i) of this section.

(7) The director of the office of minority and women's business enterprises shall adopt rules prioritizing loans to minority or women's business enterprises or veteran-owned businesses for applicants that:

(a) Demonstrate the ability to accomplish the purposes stated in subsection (3) of this section;

(b) Are located in an underserved area of the state; and

(c) Do not currently have loans with other small business lending agencies.

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