

**HB 2434 - DIGEST**

(SEE ALSO PROPOSED 1ST SUB)

Creates the Washington state space exploration center of excellence to: (1) Pursue joint industry-university research in developing and supporting new and existing technologies that can be used in space exploration firms;

(2) Recruit future space exploration sector leaders;

(3) Work directly with existing small, medium, and large-sized space firms and space industry associations;

(4) Provide a centralized Washington space exploration industry hub;

(5) Promote and foster local space exploration industry efforts; and

(6) Coordinate efforts with other governmental entities, nongovernmental organizations, and academics to solicit significant industry conferences and meetings to Washington.

Requires the department of commerce to select an academic, government, or nongovernmental entity to host and oversee the center.

Requires the joint legislative audit and review committee to conduct an evaluation of the performance of the center.

Provides that this act is null and void if appropriations are not approved.