
HOUSE BILL 1632

State of Washington

68th Legislature

2023 Regular Session

By Representatives Reeves, Duerr, and Springer

Read first time 01/27/23. Referred to Committee on Consumer Protection & Business.

1 AN ACT Relating to evaluating retirement options for Washington
2 consumers; creating a new section; and providing an expiration date.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The department of commerce shall
5 study, directly or through a contract, the retirement preparedness of
6 Washington residents and the feasibility of establishing a state-
7 sponsored private retirement savings program. The study shall analyze
8 current state and federal programs and recent legislative changes
9 that encourage citizens to save for retirement by participating in
10 retirement savings plans, including plans pursuant to sections
11 401(k), 403(b), 408(k), 408(p), and 457(b) of the internal revenue
12 code. The scope of the analysis shall include:

13 (a) An examination of potential retirement savings options for
14 self-employed individuals, part-time employees, and full-time
15 employees whose employers do not offer a retirement savings plan;

16 (b) Estimates of the impact on the state budget and on taxpayers
17 from shortfalls in retirement savings or income, including on public
18 budgets from a loss of economic activity by seniors;

19 (c) The level of interest by Washington employers in
20 participating in a state-sponsored private retirement savings
21 program;

- 1 (d) Consultation with impacted stakeholders;
- 2 (e) An examination of the impact of retirement savings on income
3 and wealth inequality;
- 4 (f) The likely costs to start up a state-sponsored private
5 retirement savings program, an estimate of the time for the program
6 to reach self-sufficiency, and potential funding options;
- 7 (g) The experience of other states that have implemented or are
8 implementing a state-sponsored private retirement savings program for
9 employers and employees, as well as program impacts on the market for
10 retirement plan products and services;
- 11 (h) An evaluation of the feasibility and benefits of interstate
12 partnerships and cooperative agreements with similar state-sponsored
13 private retirement savings programs established in other
14 jurisdictions;
- 15 (i) An assessment of potential changes in enrollment in a joint
16 state-sponsored private retirement savings program if potential
17 participants are concurrently enrolled in the federal "saver's
18 credit" program;
- 19 (j) The appropriate state agency and potential structure for
20 implementing a state-sponsored private retirement savings program;
21 and
- 22 (k) Recommendations for statutory changes or appropriations for
23 establishing a state-sponsored private retirement savings program.
- 24 (2) The department of commerce, in undertaking the analysis, may
25 convene a group of stakeholders to assist and provide insight into
26 the feasibility and preferred structure of a state-sponsored private
27 retirement savings program.
- 28 (3) The findings shall be provided in a report to the appropriate
29 committees of the legislature and in accordance with RCW 43.01.036 by
30 September 30, 2023.
- 31 (4) This section expires July 1, 2024.

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