
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5008

State of Washington

52nd Legislature

1991 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Commerce & Labor (originally sponsored by Senators Bluechel, Gaspard, Hayner, Snyder, Matson, Vognild, Cantu, McMullen, von Reichbauer, Nelson, McDonald, Barr, Sellar, Bailey, Moore, Conner and Bauer).

Read first time February 5, 1991.

1 AN ACT Relating to the establishment of The Pacific Northwest
2 Economic Region; adding a new chapter to Title 43 RCW; creating a new
3 section; and making an appropriation.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that there is a new
6 emerging global economy in which countries and regions located in
7 specific areas of the world are forging new cooperative arrangements.

8 The legislature finds that these new cooperative arrangements are
9 increasing the competitiveness of the participating countries and
10 regions, thus increasing the economic benefits and the overall quality
11 of life for the citizens of the individual countries and regions.

12 The legislature also finds that the Pacific Northwest states of
13 Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington and the Canadian
14 provinces of Alberta and British Columbia are in a strategic position
15 to act together, as a region, thus increasing the overall

1 competitiveness of the individual states and provinces that will
2 provide substantial economic benefits for all of their citizens.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The Pacific Northwest Economic Region is
4 hereby enacted into law and entered into by the state of Washington as
5 a party, and is in full force and effect in accordance with the terms
6 of this agreement.

7 THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST ECONOMIC REGION

8 ARTICLE I--Policy and Purpose

9 States and provinces participating in the Pacific Northwest
10 Economic Region shall seek to develop and establish policies that:
11 Promote greater regional collaboration among the seven entities;
12 enhance the overall competitiveness of the region in international and
13 domestic markets; increase the economic well-being of all citizens in
14 the region; and improve the quality of life of the citizens of the
15 Pacific Northwest.

16 States and provinces recognize that there are many public policy
17 areas in which cooperation and joint efforts would be mutually
18 beneficial. These areas include, but are not limited to:
19 International trade; economic development; human resources; the
20 environment and natural resources; energy; and education. Parties to
21 this agreement shall work diligently to establish collaborative
22 activity in these and other appropriate policy areas where such
23 cooperation is deemed worthwhile and of benefit to the participating
24 entities. Participating states and provinces also agree that there are
25 areas in which cooperation may not be feasible.

26 The substantive actions of the Pacific Northwest Economic Region
27 may take the form of uniform legislation enacted by two or more states

1 and/or provinces or policy initiatives endorsed as appropriate by
2 participating entities. It shall not be necessary for all states and
3 provinces to participate in each initiative.

4 ARTICLE II--Eligible Parties and Effective Date

5 Each of the following states and provinces is eligible to become a
6 party to this agreement: Alaska, Alberta, British Columbia, Idaho,
7 Montana, Oregon, and Washington. This agreement establishing the
8 Pacific Northwest Economic Region shall become effective when it is
9 executed by one state, one province, and one additional state and/or
10 province in a form deemed appropriate by each entity. This agreement
11 shall continue in force and remain binding upon each state and province
12 until renounced by it. Renunciation of this agreement must be preceded
13 by sending one year's notice in writing of intention to withdraw from
14 the agreement to the other parties to the agreement.

15 ARTICLE III--Organizational Structure

16 Each state and province participating in this agreement shall
17 appoint representatives to the Pacific Northwest Economic Region. The
18 organizational structure of the Pacific Northwest Economic Region shall
19 consist of the following: A delegate council consisting of four
20 legislators from each participating state and four representatives from
21 each participating province and an executive committee consisting of
22 one legislator from each participating state and/or province who is a
23 member of the delegate council. Policy committees may be established
24 to carry out further duties and responsibilities of the Pacific
25 Northwest Economic Region.

ARTICLE IV--Duties and Responsibilities

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2 The delegate council shall have the following duties and
3 responsibilities: Facilitate the involvement of other government
4 officials in the development and implementation of specific
5 collaborative initiatives; work with policy-making committees in the
6 development and implementation of specific initiatives; approve general
7 organizational policies developed by the executive committee; provide
8 final approval of the annual budget and staffing structure for the
9 Pacific Northwest Economic Region developed by the executive committee;
10 and other duties and responsibilities as may be established in the
11 rules and regulations of the Pacific Northwest Economic Region. The
12 executive committee shall perform the following duties and
13 responsibilities: Elect the president and vice-president of the
14 Pacific Northwest Economic Region; approve and implement general
15 organizational policies; develop the annual budget; devise the annual
16 action plan; act as liaison with other public and private sector
17 entities; and other duties and responsibilities established in the
18 rules and regulations of the Pacific Northwest Economic Region. The
19 rules and regulations of the Pacific Northwest Economic Region shall
20 establish the procedure for voting.

ARTICLE V--Membership of Policy Committees

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22 Policy committees dealing with specific subject matter may be
23 established by the executive committee.

24 Each participating state and province shall appoint legislators to
25 sit on these committees in accordance with its own rules and
26 regulations concerning such appointments.

ARTICLE VI--General Provisions

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2 This agreement shall not be construed to limit the powers of any
3 state or province or to amend or repeal or prevent the enactment of any
4 legislation.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** It is the intent of this act to direct and
6 encourage the establishment of cooperative activities between the seven
7 legislative bodies of the region. The state representatives to the
8 Pacific Northwest Economic Region shall work through appropriate
9 channels to advance consideration of proposals developed by this body.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** Sections 1 and 2 of this act shall
11 constitute a new chapter in Title 43 RCW.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** The sum of forty-nine thousand nine hundred
13 dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for
14 the biennium ending June 30, 1993, from the general fund to the
15 Northwest Policy Center for the purposes of funding the activities of
16 the Pacific Northwest Economic Region.