
SENATE BILL 6341

State of Washington 52nd Legislature 1992 Regular Session

By Senators Thorsness, Newhouse and Erwin

Read first time 01/27/92. Referred to Committee on Law & Justice.

1 AN ACT Relating to jail industries; and adding a new chapter to
2 Title 36 RCW.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that there is an
5 expressed need for a means by which cities and counties can uniformly
6 develop and coordinate jail industries technical information and
7 standards state-wide. It further finds that meaningful jail work
8 industries programs that are linked to formal education and adult
9 literacy training can reduce recidivism and in turn reduce the rising
10 costs of corrections and criminal activities. It is the purpose and
11 intent of the legislature, through this chapter, to organize the
12 foundation of a state-wide jail industries program that recognizes four
13 classes of jail inmate work programs designed to promote inmate
14 rehabilitation through meaningful work experience. The legislature

1 recognizes that inmates should have the responsibility for contributing
2 to the cost of their crime through the wages earned while working in
3 jail industries programs and that such income shall be used to offset
4 the costs of implementing and maintaining local jail industries
5 programs and also the costs of incarceration.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** Unless the context clearly requires
7 otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout this
8 chapter.

9 (1) "Board" means the state-wide board of directors for jail
10 industries in the state of Washington.

11 (2) "Cost accounting center" means a specific industry program
12 operated under the private sector prison industry enhancement
13 certification program as specified in 18 U.S.C. Sec. 1761.

14 (3) "Court-ordered legal financial obligations" means a sum of
15 money that is ordered by a superior, district, or municipal court of
16 the state of Washington for payment of restitution to a victim, a
17 statutorily imposed crime victims compensation fee, court costs, a
18 county or interlocal drug fund, court appointed attorneys' fees and
19 costs of defense, fines, and other legal financial obligations that are
20 assessed as a result of a felony or misdemeanor conviction.

21 (4) "Customer model industry" means a class I, free venture
22 industry that provides products or services which are currently
23 produced or provided by out-of-state or foreign suppliers.

24 (5) "Employer model industry" means a class I, free venture
25 industry based upon an agreement, between a city or county and a profit
26 or nonprofit organization, which produces goods or services for sale to
27 both the public and private sectors.

28 (6) "Jail inmate" means a preconviction or postconviction resident
29 of a city or county jail who is determined eligible to participate in

1 jail inmate work programs according to the eligibility criteria of the
2 work program.

3 (7) "Private sector prison industry enhancement certification
4 program" means that program authorized by the United States justice
5 assistance act of 1984, 18 U.S.C. Sec. 1761.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A state-wide jail industries board of
7 directors is established. The board shall consist of the following
8 members:

9 (1) One sheriff and one police chief, to be selected by the
10 Washington association of sheriffs and police chiefs;

11 (2) One county commissioner or one county council member to be
12 selected by the Washington association of counties;

13 (3) One city official to be selected by the association of
14 Washington cities;

15 (4) Two jail administrators to be selected by the Washington
16 association of jail administrators, one of whom shall be from a county
17 or a city with an established jail industries program;

18 (5) One prosecuting attorney to be selected by the Washington
19 association of prosecuting attorneys;

20 (6) One administrator from a city or county corrections department
21 to be selected by the Washington correctional association;

22 (7) One county clerk to be selected by the Washington association
23 of county clerks;

24 (8) Two representatives from labor to be selected by the governor;

25 (9) Two representatives from business to be selected by the
26 governor;

27 (10) The governor's representative from the employment security
28 department;

1 (11) One member representing crime victims, to be selected by the
2 governor;

3 (12) One member representing on-line law enforcement officers, to
4 be selected by the governor;

5 (13) One member from the department of trade and economic
6 development to be selected by the governor; and

7 (14) The governor's representative from the correctional industries
8 division of the state department of corrections shall be an ex officio
9 member for the purpose of coordination and cooperation between prison
10 and jail industries and to further a positive relationship between
11 state and local government offender programs.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The board shall, at the request of a
13 city or county, offer advice in developing and implementing work
14 programs designed to:

15 (1) Offer inmates employment, work experience, education, and
16 training in vocations which may provide opportunities for legitimate
17 means of livelihood upon their release from custody;

18 (2) Provide industries which will reduce the tax burden of cities
19 and counties through the provision of services and the production of
20 goods for use and sale, and charging inmates for program costs and the
21 costs of incarceration; and

22 (3) Operate jail work programs in a safe, effective, and efficient
23 manner which are consistent with sound private industry business
24 practices.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** The board shall develop guidelines and
26 provide technical assistance for the coordination of jail industries
27 programs with basic educational programs to improve inmate literacy, to
28 provide vocational screening and appropriate training, to evaluate

1 substance abuse behaviors, and to provide for prerelease classes and
2 consideration for postrelease placement.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** The board shall require a city or a
4 county which establishes a jail industries program to develop a local
5 advisory group, or to use an existing advisory group of the appropriate
6 composition, to advise and guide program operations. Such an advisory
7 group shall include an equal number of representatives of labor and
8 business, as well as representation from a sheltered workshop in the
9 local area as defined in RCW 82.04.385 and representation from a local
10 crime victims advocacy group.

11 A local advisory group shall have among its tasks the
12 responsibility of ensuring that a jail industry has minimal negative
13 impact on existing private industries or the labor force in the locale
14 where the industry operates and that a jail industry does not
15 negatively affect employment opportunities for people with
16 developmental disabilities contracted through the operation of
17 sheltered workshops as defined in RCW 82.04.385.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** The board shall develop standards, in
19 cooperation with the city and county jail industries programs, for the
20 consistent, safe, and efficient operation of jail industries. The
21 board shall thereafter develop and implement a process by which cities
22 and counties may gain state-wide accreditation for operating jail
23 industries that successfully comply with the standards so established.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** The board shall:

25 (1) Establish procedures for determining whether a city or a county
26 jail industries program complies with the requirements of the private
27 sector prison industry enhancement certification program;

1 (2) Determine whether a jail industries program shall be designated
2 as a cost accounting center for the purposes of the private sector
3 prison industry enhancement certification program, and determine
4 whether any such designation previously approved shall be revoked;

5 (3) Monitor all designated jail industry programs to ensure
6 continuing compliance with the rules promulgated by the United States
7 department of justice under the provisions of the private sector prison
8 industry enhancement certification program;

9 (4) Review proposed industries under the class I customer model and
10 under class II, prior to the contracting of such products or services.
11 Reviews shall be conducted to assess the potential impact of the
12 proposed products and services on the Washington state business and
13 labor community and to explore the potential for new markets for jail
14 industries products and services;

15 (5) Develop a procedure for review and recommendations regarding
16 jail industries wage scales;

17 (6) Establish an arbitration process for resolving conflicts
18 arising among the local business community and labor organizations
19 concerning new industries programs, products, services, or wages; and

20 (7) Encourage the development of the collection and analysis of
21 jail industries program data, including long-term tracking information
22 on recidivism.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** The board may receive funds from local,
24 county, state, or federal sources and may receive grants to support its
25 activities. The board may establish a reasonable schedule of fees to
26 be charged to participating cities and counties.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 10.** The board shall initially convene at the
28 call of the representative of the correctional industries division of

1 the state department of corrections, together with the jail
2 administrator selected from a city or a county with an established jail
3 industries program, no later than six months after the effective date
4 of this act. Subsequent meetings of the board shall be at the call of
5 the board chairperson. The board shall meet at least twice a year.

6 The board shall elect a chairperson and other such officers as it
7 deems appropriate. However, the chairperson may not be the
8 representative of the correctional industries division of the state
9 department of corrections nor any representative from an executive
10 branch agency.

11 Members of the board shall serve terms of three years each on a
12 staggered schedule to be established by the first board. For purposes
13 of initiating a staggered schedule of terms, some members of the first
14 board may initially serve two years and some members may initially
15 serve four years.

16 The members of the board shall serve without compensation but may
17 be reimbursed for travel expenses from funds acquired under this
18 chapter.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 11.** A city or a county which implements a
20 jail industry program classified as a class I, class II, class III, or
21 class IV industry, may establish a separate fund for the operation of
22 the program. This fund shall be a special revenue fund with continuing
23 authority to receive income and pay expenses associated with the jail
24 industry program.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 12.** Cities and counties participating in
26 jail industries are authorized to provide for comprehensive work
27 programs using jail inmate workers at worksites within jail facilities
28 or at such places within the city or county as may be directed by the

1 legislative authority of the city or county, except as provided under
2 RCW 36.28.100. For purposes of establishing such comprehensive
3 programs, the legislature recommends that cities and counties consider
4 adopting the following classes of jail work programs:

5 (1) Class I: Free venture industries. The employer model
6 industries in this class shall be operated and managed in total or in
7 part by any profit or nonprofit organization pursuant to an agreement
8 between the organization and the city or county. The organization may
9 produce goods or services for sale to both the public and private
10 sectors.

11 The customer model industries in this class shall be operated and
12 managed to provide Washington state manufacturers or businesses with
13 products or services currently produced or provided by out-of-state or
14 foreign suppliers.

15 The city or county shall supply appropriate security and custody
16 services to a participating organization.

17 Jail inmates who work in free venture industries shall do so at
18 their own choice. They shall be paid a wage comparable to the wage
19 paid for work of a similar nature in the locality in which the industry
20 is located, as determined by the elected official, department head, or
21 designee administering jail industries of the city or county jail
22 industries program in consultation with the local office of the
23 employment security department. If the elected official, department
24 head, or designee administering jail industries cannot reasonably
25 determine the comparable wage, then the jail industries board may be
26 consulted for resolution, but in no event shall the pay be less than
27 the state or federal minimum wage.

28 (2) Class II: Tax reduction industries. Industries in this class
29 shall be city-owned or county-owned enterprises designed to reduce the
30 cost for goods and services for tax supported agencies and for

1 nonprofit organizations. The industries selected for development
2 within this class shall, as much as possible, match the available pool
3 of inmate work skills and aptitudes with the work opportunities in the
4 free community. The industries shall be closely patterned after
5 private sector industries.

6 The products and services of this industry, including purchased
7 products and services necessary for a complete product line, may be
8 sold to public agencies and nonprofit organizations, and to private
9 contractors when the goods purchased will be ultimately used by a
10 public agency or nonprofit organization. Clothing manufactured by an
11 industry in this class may be donated to nonprofit organizations that
12 provide clothing free of charge to low-income persons. Jail industries
13 products and services in this class shall be reviewed by the jail
14 industries board before offering such products and services to private
15 contractors.

16 To avoid waste or spoilage and consequent loss to the city or
17 county, when there is no public sector market for by-products and
18 surpluses of timber, agricultural, and animal husbandry enterprises,
19 such goods may be sold to private persons, at private sale. Surplus
20 by-products and surpluses of timber, agricultural, and animal husbandry
21 enterprises that cannot be sold to public agencies or to private
22 persons may be donated to nonprofit organizations. All sales of
23 surplus products shall be carried out in accordance with rules
24 prescribed by the city or county.

25 Jail inmates working in this class of industries shall do so at
26 their own choice and shall be paid for their work on a gratuity scale
27 which shall not exceed the wage paid for work of a similar nature in
28 the locality in which the industry is located, or may receive some
29 other form of compensation, as determined by the elected official,
30 department head, or designee administering jail industries.

1 Security, custody, and supervision shall be provided by the city or
2 county.

3 (3) Class III: Jail support industries. Industries in this class
4 shall be operated by the city or county jail. They shall be designed
5 and managed to accomplish the following objectives whenever possible:

6 (a) Provide basic work training and experience so that the inmate
7 will be able to qualify for better work both within jail industries and
8 the free community;

9 (b) Provide twenty hours of work or work training per week on a
10 regular schedule; and

11 (c) Offset tax and other public support costs.

12 Supervision, management, and security staff shall be employees of
13 the city or county law and justice system.

14 All able and eligible jail inmates who are assigned work may work
15 in this class.

16 Jail inmates in this class may be paid for their work in accordance
17 with an inmate gratuity scale or other method of compensation, as
18 determined by the elected official, department head, or designee
19 administering jail industries.

20 (4) Class IV: Community work industries. Industries in this class
21 may be operated by a city or county jail or other unit of local
22 government. They shall be designed and managed to provide services in
23 the community at reduced cost.

24 Inmate workers in this class may reside in facilities owned, or
25 contracted for, by the city, county, or other unit of government, or
26 may be participating in programs of partial confinement.

27 Supervision, security, and work supervision shall be supplied by
28 city or county law and justice employees.

29 Jail inmates who work in this class of industries shall do so at
30 their own choice and may receive a gratuity which shall not exceed the

1 minimum wage, or may receive another form of compensation, as
2 determined by the elected official, department head, or designee
3 administering jail industries.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 13.** All inmates working in jail industry
5 programs for which the compensation is a wage shall contribute toward
6 the reduction of the costs of corrections, including costs to develop,
7 implement, and operate jail industries programs. This amount shall be
8 a reasonable amount which will not unduly discourage the incentive to
9 work. The amount so deducted shall be deposited in the jail industries
10 special revenue fund.

11 The elected official, department head, or designee administering
12 jail industries may direct that deductions from inmate wages be made
13 for, and disbursed to, crime victims compensation, program fees,
14 restitution, court fines and other legal financial obligations,
15 incarceration costs, family support, or savings.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 14.** A jail inmate who works in class I free
17 venture industries under section 12(1) of this act or class II tax
18 reduction industries under section 12(2) of this act shall be
19 considered an employee for purposes of industrial insurance only and is
20 eligible for industrial insurance benefits under Title 51 RCW.
21 However, eligibility for benefits for either the inmate or the inmate's
22 dependents or beneficiaries for temporary disability or permanent total
23 disability under RCW 51.32.090 or 51.32.060, respectively, shall not
24 take effect until the inmate is discharged from custody upon expiration
25 of the sentence, or discharged from custody by order of a court of
26 appropriate jurisdiction. Nothing in this section shall be construed
27 to confer eligibility for any industrial insurance benefits to any jail

1 inmate who is employed in class III or class IV jail industries under
2 section 12 (3) and (4) of this act.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 15.** To the extent possible, the four classes
4 of jail industries programs under section 12 of this act shall be
5 augmented by education and training to improve worker literacy and
6 employability skills. Such education and training may include, but is
7 not limited to, basic adult education, work towards a certificate of
8 educational competence which follows successful completion of the
9 general educational development test, vocational and preemployment work
10 maturity skills training, and apprenticeship classes.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 16.** Until sufficient funding is secured by
12 the board to adequately provide staffing, basic staff assistance shall
13 be provided, to the extent possible, by the department of corrections.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 17.** Sections 1 through 16 of this act shall
15 constitute a new chapter in Title 36 RCW.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 18.** If any provision of this act or its
17 application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the
18 remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other
19 persons or circumstances is not affected.