
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2256

State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1994 Regular Session

By House Committee on State Government (originally sponsored by Representatives Valle, Shin, Sheldon, Flemming, Springer, Johanson, Wineberry, Campbell, Veloria, Conway, J. Kohl and Morris)

Read first time 01/31/94.

1 AN ACT Relating to international trade; adding new sections to
2 chapter 43.06 RCW; creating a new section; and making an appropriation.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds and declares that:

5 (1) The expansion of international trade is vital to the overall
6 growth of Washington's economy;

7 (2) The current state efforts to develop relations with foreign
8 countries are insufficient for effective coordination and mobilization
9 of resources necessary to promote economic growth and international
10 trade;

11 (3) There is a need to strengthen and coordinate the state's
12 activities in marketing its agricultural, manufacturing, and service
13 industries overseas, especially for small and medium-sized businesses;
14 and

15 (4) The state needs to develop better and more consistent
16 representation of its trade interests, especially as a result of new
17 trade agreements and policies at the state, national, and international
18 levels.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 43.06 RCW
2 to read as follows:

3 There is created within the office of the governor the position of
4 Washington state trade representative. The Washington state trade
5 representative is exempt from chapter 41.06 RCW. The Washington state
6 trade representative must be paid a salary to be fixed by the governor
7 in accordance with RCW 43.03.040. The department of community, trade,
8 and economic development shall provide staff support.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 43.06 RCW
10 to read as follows:

11 The purposes of the Washington state trade representative are to:

12 (1) Strengthen the state's efforts to influence national and
13 international trade policies affecting the state's agricultural,
14 manufacturing, and service industries;

15 (2) Respond to industry complaints concerning foreign trade
16 barriers, and help represent its interest before appropriate agencies;

17 (3) Expand export opportunities for the state's small and medium-
18 sized businesses; and

19 (4) Participate in the development of international agreements that
20 affect Washington's economic interest in cooperation with the office of
21 the United States trade representative and other appropriate agencies
22 and organizations.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 43.06 RCW
24 to read as follows:

25 The Washington state trade representative shall:

26 (1) Consult with the department of agriculture and the various
27 agricultural commissions, created in Title 15 RCW, on the promotion of
28 Washington agricultural commodities overseas;

29 (2) Consult with the department of community, trade, and economic
30 development on improving the environment for international trade of
31 Washington manufacturing, agriculture, and service industries overseas;

32 (3) Chair the governor's advisory committee on international trade;

33 (4) Organize, coordinate, promote, and participate in export
34 promotion events including, but not limited to, trade fairs, missions,
35 delegations, marts, seminars, and advertising;

36 (5) Develop, in consultation with the governor's advisory committee
37 on international trade, the department of agriculture, and the

1 department of community, trade, and economic development a long-term
2 international trade strategy that specifies how the state together with
3 industry plans to improve its capacity to respond to international
4 trade opportunities;

5 (6) Advise the governor and the legislature on state activities in
6 expanding international trade opportunities for Washington businesses,
7 especially small and medium-sized businesses; and

8 (7) Accept or request grants or gifts from public and private
9 sources to be used to defray the costs of the operation of the office.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** The sum of one hundred sixty thousand
11 dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for
12 the biennium ending June 30, 1995, from the general fund to the office
13 of the governor for the purposes of this act.

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