
HOUSE BILL 2409

State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1994 Regular Session

By Representatives Wineberry, Forner, Campbell, Conway, Springer, Quall, Shin, Valle, Sheldon, J. Kohl, Cothorn, Wolfe, Veloria and Rayburn

Read first time 01/14/94. Referred to Committee on State Government.

1 AN ACT Relating to international trade; adding new sections to
2 chapter 43.330 RCW; adding a new chapter to Title 43 RCW; creating a
3 new section; and making appropriations.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that:

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

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

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

15 (2) The legislature declares that the purpose of chapter ..., Laws
16 of 1994 (this act) is to bring the functions of international trade
17 together under a new office under the office of the governor in order

1 to establish a viable, coordinated, and comprehensive approach to the
2 state's international trade efforts.

3 **PART I--OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE**

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The office of international trade is
5 created within the office of the governor. The office of international
6 trade shall serve as the state's official liaison with foreign
7 governments and business overseas.

8 (2) The governor shall appoint the Washington state trade
9 representative who shall serve at the pleasure of the governor. The
10 Washington state trade representative is exempt from chapter 41.06 RCW.
11 The Washington state trade representative must be paid a salary to be
12 fixed by the governor in accordance with RCW 43.03.040.

13 (3) The Washington state trade representative may hire such
14 personnel as are necessary for the general administration of the office
15 of international trade. To the extent permitted by law, a state agency
16 may temporarily loan staff to the office of international trade to
17 assist in carrying out the office of international trade's duties and
18 responsibilities under this chapter. An arrangement to temporarily
19 loan staff must have the approval of the staff member to be loaned, the
20 Washington state trade representative of the office of international
21 trade, and the agency involved in the loan.

22 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The purposes of the office of international
23 trade are to:

24 (1) Strengthen the state's activities in marketing its
25 agricultural, manufacturing, and service industries overseas;

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

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

30 (4) Participate in the development of international agreements that
31 affect Washington's economic interest in cooperation with the office of
32 the United States trade representative.

33 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The Washington state trade representative
34 may:

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

4 (2) Consult with the department of community, trade, and economic
5 development on the promotion of Washington manufacturing and service
6 industries overseas;

7 (3) Coordinate the activities of the various state international
8 trade offices;

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

12 (5) Develop, in consultation with the state's council on
13 international trade, by December 1, 1994, a five-year international
14 trade strategy that specifies how the state plans to assist businesses
15 expand their exports overseas, especially small and medium-sized
16 businesses;

17 (6) Accept or request grants or gifts from public and private
18 sources to be used to defray the costs of the operation of the office;
19 and

20 (7) Advise the governor and the legislature on the state's
21 activities in expanding international trade opportunities for
22 Washington businesses, especially small and medium-sized businesses.

23 **PART II--INTERNATIONAL TRADE OFFICES**

24 **Subpart A--Canada Trade Office**

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** A new section is added to chapter 43.330 RCW
26 to read as follows:

27 The department shall establish a Washington state trade office in
28 Canada.

29 **Subpart B--China Trade Office**

30 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** A new section is added to chapter 43.330 RCW
31 to read as follows:

32 The department shall establish a Washington state trade office in
33 the People's Republic of China.

34 **Subpart C--Mexico Trade Office**

1 NEW SECTION. Sec. 7. A new section is added to chapter 43.330 RCW
2 to read as follows:

3 The department shall establish a Washington state trade office in
4 the United Mexican States.

5 **Subpart D--South Africa Trade Office**

6 NEW SECTION. Sec. 8. A new section is added to chapter 43.330 RCW
7 to read as follows:

8 The department shall establish a Washington state trade office in
9 the Republic of South Africa.

10 NEW SECTION. Sec. 9. Sections 1 through 4 of this act shall
11 constitute a new chapter in Title 43 RCW.

12 NEW SECTION. Sec. 10. If any provision of this act or its
13 application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the
14 remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other
15 persons or circumstances is not affected.

16 NEW SECTION. Sec. 11. Part and subpart headings as used in this
17 act constitute no part of the law.

18 NEW SECTION. Sec. 12. (1) The sum of two hundred thousand
19 dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for
20 the biennium ending June 30, 1995, from the general fund to the office
21 of the governor for the purposes of sections 1 through 4 of this act.

22 (2) The sum of two hundred twenty-five thousand dollars, or as much
23 thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the biennium ending
24 June 30, 1995, from the general fund to the department of community,
25 trade, and economic development for the purposes of sections 5 through
26 8 of this act.

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