
SECOND SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5579

State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1994 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Trade, Technology & Economic Development
(originally sponsored by Senators Skratek, Erwin, Bluechel, Deccio, M.
Rasmussen, Bauer, Jesernig, Sellar, Pelz and Winsley)

Read first time 02/04/94.

1 AN ACT Relating to technology policies and facilities; adding a new
2 section to chapter 43.330 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds:

5 (1) The growth and development of innovative, technology-based
6 businesses in Washington is necessary to ensure progress and increase
7 the productivity in key areas of our economy, such as advanced
8 computing, advanced materials, agriculture, forest products,
9 telecommunications, environmental technology, biotechnology, electronic
10 device technology, and manufacturing;

11 (2) The fostering and development of innovative technology-based
12 businesses in this state and the proper education and training of
13 individuals to work for such businesses is necessary to assure the
14 growth and stability of the state's economy, adequate employment
15 opportunities providing livable wages, the protection of the
16 environment, and the general welfare of the citizens of this state;

17 (3) Other states have established programs and policies seeking to
18 attract and retain technology-based businesses; and

1 (4) It is critical that the state develop a state-wide technology
2 strategy that seeks to identify the mechanisms for attracting,
3 developing, and strengthening technology-based industries in the state
4 of Washington and using new technologies in the operation of state
5 government.

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

8 The department shall develop a state-wide technology strategy. The
9 department shall specifically examine and develop policies related to:
10 Strengthening research and development partnerships between industry,
11 academia, and government; developing a work force that is educated and
12 skilled to work in technology-based industries; identifying capital
13 funding options for technology-based companies; creating incentives for
14 the start-up of technology-based companies; and expanding and
15 coordinating industrial modernization, technology transfer, and product
16 commercialization programs for small and medium-sized businesses. In
17 addition, the department shall examine: The performance and cost-
18 effectiveness of existing state technology programs including, but not
19 limited to, the Washington technology center; whether the current
20 organizational structure of the Washington technology center and other
21 state technology programs result in these programs meeting the needs
22 and expectations of businesses in this state; whether the patent and
23 royalty percentage to professors and scientists working for
24 institutions of higher education should be increased; whether ownership
25 and possession of patents can or should be given to scientists
26 conducting research leading to such patents at institutions of higher
27 education; and the impact of having state research universities shift
28 from conducting research with no apparent industrial application to
29 applied research for commercial and industrial application by
30 businesses in the state. The department shall submit the strategy to
31 the executive legislative committee on economic development for review.

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