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SENATE BILL 6601

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State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1994 Regular Session

By Senators Gaspard, Sellar, Quigley, Rinehart, Oke, Winsley, Ludwig, Drew, Franklin, Skratek and M. Rasmussen

Read first time 02/07/94. Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

1 AN ACT Relating to government performance and accountability; and  
2 creating a new section.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the effective  
5 delivery of state services is essential as the state faces increasing  
6 constraints on revenue and expenditures. At the same time, the public  
7 expects and deserves quality services and improved accountability. It  
8 is therefore prudent for the state to identify strategies to include  
9 customers and empower agencies and their employees to more effectively  
10 deliver services. The state should also determine whether a more  
11 flexible and understandable budget process, and systems to identify  
12 expected results for state programs and measure performance towards  
13 achieving those results, will improve service delivery.

14 The legislature declares its commitment to identify and eliminate  
15 barriers to innovation and improvement, and to create incentives for  
16 performance in state government.

17 Through the work of the governor, the office of financial  
18 management, and statutory and standing committees of the senate and  
19 house of representatives, strategies will be jointly developed to allow

1 state agencies greater freedom in the allocation of their financial and  
2 human resources to achieve improved performance, accountability, and  
3 service delivery. State agency personnel, and particularly front-line  
4 employees, will play a vital role in identifying workable strategies.  
5 Where appropriate, expertise from business and industry shall also be  
6 employed. These strategies, which may be initially implemented through  
7 pilot projects or other trial processes, shall incorporate  
8 methodologies to evaluate their effectiveness.

9 The legislature shall work with the governor, the state auditor,  
10 and the office of financial management to incorporate existing efforts  
11 of state agencies, the governor's commission on efficiency and  
12 accountability, and the state productivity board into this coordinated  
13 effort.

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