
HOUSE BILL 2495

State of Washington

59th Legislature

2006 Regular Session

By Representatives Kilmer, Holmquist, Green, Miloscia, Buri, Nixon, Rodne, Hudgins, P. Sullivan, Springer, Haler, Morrell, Morris, Ericks, B. Sullivan, Simpson and Upthegrove

Prefiled 1/6/2006. Read first time 01/09/2006. Referred to Committee on State Government Operations & Accountability.

1 AN ACT Relating to establishing a state government efficiency
2 hotline; and adding a new section to chapter 43.09 RCW.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 43.09 RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 (1) Within existing funds, the state auditor must establish a toll-
7 free telephone line that is available to public employees and members
8 of the public to recommend measures to improve efficiency in state
9 government and to report waste, inefficiency, or abuse by state
10 agencies, state employees, or persons under contract with state
11 agencies.

12 (2) The toll-free telephone line established under this section
13 must be known as the state government efficiency hotline. The state
14 auditor must prepare information that explains the purpose of the
15 hotline, and the hotline telephone number must be prominently displayed
16 in the information. Hotline information must be posted in all state
17 offices in locations where it is most likely to be seen by the public.
18 The state auditor must publicize the availability of the state
19 government efficiency hotline through print and electronic media.

1 (3) The state auditor must designate staff to be responsible for
2 processing recommendations for improving efficiency and reports of
3 waste, inefficiency, or abuse received through the hotline. The state
4 auditor must conduct an initial investigation of each recommendation
5 for efficiency and report of waste, inefficiency, or abuse made by
6 public employees and members of the public. Following the initial
7 investigation, the state auditor must determine which reports require
8 further investigation and assign the investigation to qualified staff.

9 (4) The identity of a person making a report through the hotline
10 remains confidential until the investigation described in subsection
11 (3) of this section is complete.

12 (5) The state auditor must prepare a written determination of the
13 results of the investigation performed, including any background
14 information that the auditor deems necessary. The findings of the
15 investigation regarding the recommendation to improve efficiency and
16 the report of waste, inefficiency, or abuse must be sent to the
17 administrator of the state agency and to the person who made the
18 report.

19 (6) The state auditor must prepare an annual report and submit the
20 report to the legislature and to the appropriate legislative
21 committees. The report must describe the number, nature, and
22 resolution of reports made through the hotline and identify savings
23 resulting from improved efficiencies or the elimination of waste or
24 abuse resulting from reports received and investigations conducted
25 under this section.

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