

**SB 5653 - DIGEST**

(SUBSTITUTED FOR - SEE 1ST SUB)

Finds that the establishment of a self-employment assistance program would assist unemployed individuals and create new businesses and job opportunities in Washington state. The department shall inform individuals identified as likely to exhaust regular unemployment benefits of the opportunity to enroll in commissioner-approved self-employment assistance programs.

Declares that an unemployed individual is eligible to participate in a self-employment assistance program if it has been determined that he or she: (1) Is otherwise eligible for regular benefits as defined in RCW 50.22.010;

(2) Has been identified as likely to exhaust regular unemployment benefits under a profiling system established by the commissioner as defined in P.L. 103-152; and

(3) Is enrolled in a self-employment assistance program that is approved by the commissioner, and includes entrepreneurial training, business counseling, technical assistance, and requirements to engage in activities relating to the establishment of a business and becoming self-employed.