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SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6359

State of Washington 62nd Legislature 2012 Regular Session

By Senate Economic Development, Trade & Innovation (originally sponsored by Senators Eide, Kastama, Kilmer, and McAuliffe)

READ FIRST TIME 02/01/12.

AN ACT Relating to modifying provisions related to the office of regulatory assistance; amending RCW 43.42.010, 43.42.050, 43.42.070, 43.42.095, 43.79A.040, 43.155.070, and 43.160.060; reenacting and amending RCW 43.42.060 and 43.84.092; and adding a new section to chapter 43.42 RCW.

- 6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 7 **Sec. 1.** RCW 43.42.010 and 2011 c 149 s 2 are each amended to read 8 as follows:
 - (1) The office of regulatory assistance is created in the office of financial management and must be administered by the office of the governor to help improve the regulatory system and assist citizens, businesses, and project proponents.
- 13 (2) The governor must appoint a director. The director may employ 14 a deputy director and a confidential secretary and such staff as are 15 necessary, or contract with another state agency pursuant to chapter 16 39.34 RCW for support in carrying out the purposes of this chapter.
 - (3) The office must offer to:

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18 (a) Act as the central point of contact for the project proponent 19 in communicating about defined issues;

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- 1 (b) Conduct project scoping as provided in RCW 43.42.050;
- 2 (c) Verify that the project proponent has all the information 3 needed to correctly apply for all necessary permits;
 - (d) Provide general coordination services;
- 5 (e) Coordinate the efficient completion among participating 6 agencies of administrative procedures, such as collecting fees or 7 providing public notice;
 - (f) Maintain contact with the project proponent and the permit agencies to promote adherence to agreed schedules;
- 10 (g) Assist in resolving any conflict or inconsistency among permit 11 requirements and conditions;
- 12 (h) Coordinate, to the extent practicable, with relevant federal permit agencies and tribal governments;
 - (i) Facilitate meetings;

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- 15 (j) Manage a fully coordinated permit process, as provided in RCW 16 43.42.060; and
 - (k) Help local jurisdictions comply with the requirements of chapter 36.70B RCW ((by providing information about best permitting practices methods to improve communication with, and solicit early involvement of, state agencies when needed; and
- 21 (1) Maintain and furnish information as provided in RCW 22 43.42.040)).
 - (4) The office must also:
 - (a) Provide information to local jurisdictions about best permitting practices, methods to improve communication with, and solicit early involvement of, state agencies when needed, and effective means of assessing and communicating expected project timelines and costs;
- 29 <u>(b) Maintain and furnish information as provided in RCW 43.42.040;</u>
 30 and
- 31 <u>(c) Provide</u> the following by September 1, 2009, and biennially 32 thereafter, to the governor and the appropriate committees of the 33 legislature:
 - $((\frac{a}{a}))$ (i) A performance report including:
- $((\frac{1}{(1)}))$ (A) Information regarding use of the office's voluntary cost-reimbursement services as provided in RCW 43.42.070;
- ((((ii)))) (B) The number and type of projects or initiatives where

the office provided services ((and the resolution provided by the office on any conflicts that arose on such projects;

(iii) The agencies involved on specific projects;

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- (iv) Specific information on any difficulty encountered in provision of services, implementation of programs or processes, or use of tools; and
- (v) Trend reporting that allows comparisons between statements of goals and performance targets and the achievement of those goals and targets; and
- 10 (b) Recommendations on system improvements including
 11 recommendations regarding:
 - (i) Measurement of overall system performance;
- (ii) Changes needed to make cost reimbursement, a fully coordinated
 permit process, multiagency permitting teams, and other processes
 effective; and
 - (iii) Resolving any conflicts or inconsistencies arising from differing statutory or regulatory authorities, roles and missions of agencies, timing and sequencing of permitting and procedural requirements as identified by the office in the course of its duties)) including the key agencies with which the office partnered;
 - (C) Specific information on any difficulty encountered in providing services or implementing programs, processes, or assistance tools; and
- 23 <u>(D) Trend reporting that allows comparisons between statements of</u> 24 <u>goals and performance targets and the achievement of those goals and</u> 25 targets; and
- 26 <u>(ii) Recommendations on system improvements including, but not</u> 27 <u>limited to, recommendations on improving environmental permitting.</u>
- 28 **Sec. 2.** RCW 43.42.050 and 2009 c 97 s 5 are each amended to read 29 as follows:
 - (1) Upon request of a project proponent, the office ((shall)) must determine the level of project scoping needed by the project proponent, taking into consideration the complexity of the project and the experience of those expected to be involved in the project application and review process. The director may require the attendance at a scoping meeting of any state or local agency.
 - (2) Project scoping ((shall)) must consider the complexity, size,

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and needs for assistance of the project and ((shall)) <u>must</u> address as appropriate:

(a) The permits that are required for the project;

- (b) The permit application forms and other application requirements of the participating permit agencies;
- (c) The specific information needs and issues of concern of each participant and their significance;
- (d) Any statutory or regulatory conflicts that might arise from the differing authorities and roles of the permit agencies;
- (e) Any natural resources, including federal or state listed species, that might be adversely affected by the project and might cause an alteration of the project or require mitigation; and
- (f) The anticipated time required for permit decisions by each participating permit agency, including the estimated time required to determine if the permit application is complete, to conduct environmental review, and to review and process the application. In determining the estimated time required, full consideration must be given to achieving the greatest possible efficiencies through any concurrent studies and any consolidated applications, hearings, and comment periods.
- (3) The outcome of the project scoping ((shall)) <u>must</u> be documented in writing, furnished to the project proponent, and be made available to the public.
- (4) The project scoping ((shall)) <u>must</u> be completed prior to the passage of sixty days of the project proponent's request for a project scoping unless the director finds that better results can be obtained by delaying the project scoping meeting or meetings to ensure full participation.
- (5) Upon completion of the project scoping, the participating permit agencies ((shall)) <u>must</u> proceed under their respective authorities. The agencies may remain in communication with the office as needed.
- 33 (6) This section does not create an independent cause of action, 34 affect any existing cause of action, or establish time limits for 35 purposes of RCW 64.40.020.
- **Sec. 3.** RCW 43.42.060 and 2009 c 421 s 8 and 2009 c 97 s 6 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

(1) A project proponent may submit a written request to the director of the office for participation in a fully coordinated permit process. Designation as a fully coordinated project requires that:

- (a) The project proponent enters into a cost-reimbursement agreement pursuant to RCW 43.42.070;
 - (b) The project has a designation under chapter 43.157 RCW; or
- (c) The director determine that (i)(A) the project raises complex coordination, permit processing, or substantive permit review issues; or (B) if completed, the project would provide substantial benefits to the state; and (ii) the office, as well as the participating permit review agencies, have sufficient capacity within existing resources to undertake the full coordination process without reimbursement and without seriously affecting other services.
- (2) A project proponent who requests designation as a fully coordinated permit process project must provide the office with a full description of the project. The office may request any information from the project proponent that is necessary to make the designation under this section, and may convene a scoping meeting or a work plan meeting of the likely participating permit agencies.
- (3) When a project is designated for the fully coordinated permit process, the office ((shall)) must serve as the main point of contact for the project proponent and participating agencies with regard to the permit process for the project as a whole. Each participating agency must designate a single point of contact for coordinating with the office. The office ((shall)) must keep an up-to-date project management log and schedule illustrating required procedural steps in the permitting process, and highlighting substantive issues as appropriate that must be resolved in order for the project to move forward. In carrying out these responsibilities, the office ((shall)) must:
- (a) Ensure that the project proponent has been informed of all the information needed to apply for the permits that are included in the coordinated permit process;
- (b) Coordinate the timing of review for those permits by the respective participating permit agencies;
- (c) Facilitate communication between project proponents,consultants, and agency staff to promote timely permit decisions;

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(d) Assist in resolving any conflict or inconsistency among the permit requirements and conditions that are expected to be imposed by the participating permit agencies; and

- (e) Make contact, at least once, with any local, tribal, or federal jurisdiction that is responsible for issuing a permit for the project and invite them to participate in the coordinated permit process or to receive periodic updates in the project.
- (4) Within thirty days, or longer with agreement of the project proponent, of the date that the office designates a project for the fully coordinated permit process, it shall convene a work plan meeting with the project proponent and the participating permit agencies to develop a coordinated permit process schedule. The meeting agenda ((shall)) may include ((at least)) any of the following:
 - (a) Review of the permits that are required for the project;
- (b) A review of the permit application forms and other application requirements of the agencies that are participating in the coordinated permit process;
- (c) An estimation of the timelines that will be used by each participating permit agency to make permit decisions, including the estimated time periods required to determine if the permit applications are complete and to review or respond to each application or submittal of new information.
- (i) The estimation must also include the estimated number of revision cycles for the project, or the typical number of revision cycles for projects of similar size and complexity.
- (ii) In the development of this timeline, full attention ((shall)) must be given to achieving the maximum efficiencies possible through concurrent studies and consolidated applications, hearings, and comment periods.
- (iii) Estimated action or response times for activities of the office that are required before or trigger further action by a participant must also be included;
- (d) Available information regarding the timing of any public hearings that are required to issue permits for the project and a determination of the feasibility of coordinating or consolidating any of those required public hearings; and
- 37 (e) A discussion of fee arrangements for the coordinated permit

process, including an estimate of the costs allowed by statute, any reimbursable agency costs, and billing schedules, if applicable.

- (5) Each agency (($\frac{\text{shall}}{\text{shall}}$)) $\underline{\text{must}}$ send at least one representative qualified to discuss the applicability and timelines associated with all permits administered by that agency or jurisdiction. At the request of the project proponent, the office (($\frac{\text{shall}}{\text{shall}}$)) $\underline{\text{must}}$ notify any relevant local or federal agency or federally recognized Indian tribe of the date of the meeting and invite that agency's participation in the process.
- (6) Any accelerated time period for the consideration of a permit application ((shall)) <u>must</u> be consistent with any statute, rule, or regulation, or adopted state policy, standard, or guideline that requires the participation of other agencies, federally recognized Indian tribes, or interested persons in the application process.
- (7) If a permit agency or the project proponent foresees, at any time, that it will be unable to meet the estimated timelines or other obligations under the agreement, it ((shall)) must notify the office of the reasons for the problem and offer potential solutions or an amended timeline for resolving the problem. The office ((shall)) must notify the participating permit agencies and the project proponent and, upon agreement of all parties, adjust the schedule, or, if necessary, schedule another work plan meeting.
- (8) The project proponent may withdraw from the coordinated permit process by submitting to the office a written request that the process be terminated. Upon receipt of the request, the office ((shall)) must notify each participating permit agency that a coordinated permit process is no longer applicable to the project.
- **Sec. 4.** RCW 43.42.070 and 2010 c 162 s 4 are each amended to read 29 as follows:
 - (1) The office may enter into cost-reimbursement agreements with a project proponent to recover from the project proponent the reasonable costs incurred by the office in carrying out the provisions of ((RCW 43.42.050, 43.42.060, 43.42.090, and 43.42.092)) this chapter. The agreement must include provisions for covering the costs incurred by the permit agencies that are participating in the cost-reimbursement project and carrying out permit processing or project review tasks referenced in the cost-reimbursement agreement.

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(2) The office must maintain policies or guidelines for coordinating cost-reimbursement agreements with participating agencies, project proponents, and ((outside)) independent consultants. Policies or guidelines must ensure that, in developing cost-reimbursement agreements, conflicts of interest are eliminated. ((Contracts with independent consultants hired by the office under this section must be based on competitive bids that are awarded for each agreement from a prequalified consultant roster.)) The policies must also support effective use of cost-reimbursement resources to address staffing and capacity limitations as may be relevant within the office or participating permit agencies.

- recovery projects selected pursuant to this section, the office must coordinate the negotiation of all cost-reimbursement agreements executed under RCW 43.21A.690, 43.30.490, 43.70.630, 43.300.080, and 70.94.085. The office, project proponent, and ((the)) participating permit agencies must be signatories to the cost-reimbursement agreement or agreements. Each participating permit agency must manage performance of its portion of the cost-reimbursement agreement. Independent consultants hired under a cost-reimbursement agreement ((shall)) must report directly to the hiring office or participating permit agency. Any cost-reimbursement agreement must require that final decisions are made by the participating permit agency and not by a hired independent consultant.
- (4) For ((a fully coordinated project using cost reimbursement, the office and participating permit agencies must include a cost-reimbursement work plan, including deliverables and schedules for invoicing and reimbursement in the fully coordinated project work plan described in RCW 43.42.060. Upon request, the office must verify that the agencies have met the obligations contained in the cost-reimbursement work plan and agreement. The cost-reimbursement agreement must identify the tasks of each agency and the maximum costs for work conducted under the agreement. The agreement must include a schedule that states:
- (a) The estimated number of weeks for initial review of the permit application for comparable projects;
 - (b) The anticipated number of revision cycles;

- (c) The estimated number of weeks for review of subsequent revision submittals;
 - (d) The estimated number of billable hours of employee time;
 - (e) The rate per hour; and

- (f) A process for revision of the agreement if necessary.
- (5) If a permit agency or the project proponent foresees, at any time, that it will be unable to meet its obligations under the cost-reimbursement agreement and fully coordinated project work plan, it must notify the office and state the reasons, along with proposals for resolving the problems and potentially amending the timelines. The office must notify the participating permit agencies and the project proponent and, upon agreement of all parties, adjust the schedule, or, if necessary, coordinate revision of the cost reimbursement agreement and fully coordinated project work plan)) any project using cost reimbursement, the cost-reimbursement agreement must require the office and participating permit agencies to develop and periodically update a project work plan, which the office must provide on the internet and share with each party to the agreement.
- (5)(a) The cost-reimbursement agreement must identify the proposed project, the desired outcomes, and the maximum costs for work to be conducted under the agreement. The desired outcomes must refer to the decision-making process and may not prejudge or predetermine whether decisions will be to approve or deny any required permit or other application. Each participating permit agency must agree to give priority to the cost-reimbursement project but may in no way reduce or eliminate regulatory requirements as part of the priority review.
- (b) Reasonable costs are determined based on time and materials estimates with a provision for contingencies, or set as a flat fee tied to a reasonable estimate of staff hours required.
- (c) The cost-reimbursement agreement may include deliverables and schedules for invoicing and reimbursement. The office may require advance payment of some or all of the agreed reimbursement, to be held in reserve and distributed to participating permit agencies and the office upon approval of invoices by the project proponent. The project proponent has thirty days to request additional information or challenge an invoice. If an invoice is challenged, the office must respond and attempt to resolve the challenge within thirty days, the

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challenge must be submitted to the office of financial management. A
decision on such a challenge must be made by the office of financial
management and approved by the director of the office of financial
management and is binding on the parties.

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- (d) Upon request, the office must verify whether participating permit agencies have met the obligations contained in the project work plan and cost-reimbursement agreement.
- (6) If a party to the cost-reimbursement agreement foresees, at any time, that it will be unable to meet its obligations under the agreement, it must notify the office and state the reasons, along with proposals for resolving the problems. The office must notify the other parties to the cost-reimbursement agreement and seek to resolve the problems by adjusting invoices, deliverables, or the project work plan, or through some other accommodation.
- 15 **Sec. 5.** RCW 43.42.095 and 2010 c 162 s 5 are each amended to read 16 as follows:

The multiagency permitting team account is created in the ((state treasury. All receipts from solicitations authorized in RCW 43.42.092 must be deposited into the account. Moneys in the account may be spent only after appropriation. Expenditures from the account may be used only for covering the initial administrative costs of multiagency permitting teams and such other costs associated with the teams as may arise that are not recoverable through cost-reimbursement or costsharing mechanisms)) custody of the state treasurer. All receipts from cost-reimbursement agreements authorized in RCW 43.42.070 and solicitations authorized in RCW 43.42.092 must be deposited into the account. Expenditures from the account may be used only for covering staffing, consultant, technology, and other administrative costs of multiagency permitting teams and other costs associated with multiagency project review and management that may arise. Only the director of the office of regulatory assistance or the director's designee may authorize expenditures from the account. The account is subject to allotment procedures under chapter 43.88 RCW, but an appropriation is not required for expenditures.

35 **Sec. 6.** RCW 43.79A.040 and 2011 1st sp.s. c 37 s 603 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) Money in the treasurer's trust fund may be deposited, invested, and reinvested by the state treasurer in accordance with RCW 43.84.080 in the same manner and to the same extent as if the money were in the state treasury, and may be commingled with moneys in the state treasury for cash management and cash balance purposes.

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- (2) All income received from investment of the treasurer's trust fund must be set aside in an account in the treasury trust fund to be known as the investment income account.
- (3) The investment income account may be utilized for the payment of purchased banking services on behalf of treasurer's trust funds including, but not limited to, depository, safekeeping, and disbursement functions for the state treasurer or affected state agencies. The investment income account is subject in all respects to chapter 43.88 RCW, but no appropriation is required for payments to financial institutions. Payments must occur prior to distribution of earnings set forth in subsection (4) of this section.
- (4)(a) Monthly, the state treasurer must distribute the earnings credited to the investment income account to the state general fund except under (b), (c), and (d) of this subsection.
- (b) following accounts and funds must The receive their proportionate share of earnings based upon each account's or fund's average daily balance for the period: The Washington promise scholarship account, the college savings program the Washington advanced college tuition payment program account, the accessible communities account, the community and technical college innovation account, the agricultural local fund, the American Indian scholarship endowment fund, the foster care scholarship endowment fund, the foster care endowed scholarship trust fund, the students with dependents grant account, the basic health plan self-insurance reserve account, the contract harvesting revolving account, the Washington state combined fund drive account, the commemorative works account, the county enhanced 911 excise tax account, the Washington international exchange scholarship endowment fund, the toll collection account, the developmental disabilities endowment trust fund, the energy account, the fair fund, the family leave insurance account, the food animal veterinarian conditional scholarship account, the fruit and vegetable inspection account, the future teachers conditional scholarship account, the game farm alternative account, the GET ready for math and

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science scholarship account, the Washington global health technologies 1 2 and product development account, the grain inspection revolving fund, the industrial insurance rainy day fund, the juvenile accountability 3 incentive account, the law enforcement officers' and firefighters' plan 4 2 expense fund, the local tourism promotion account, the multiagency 5 permitting team account, the pilotage account, the produce railcar pool 6 7 account, the regional transportation investment district account, the 8 rural rehabilitation account, the stadium and exhibition center 9 account, the youth athletic facility account, the self-insurance 10 revolving fund, the sulfur dioxide abatement account, the children's 11 trust fund, the Washington horse racing commission Washington bred 12 owners' bonus fund and breeder awards account, the Washington horse 13 racing commission class C purse fund account, the individual development account program account, the Washington horse racing 14 15 commission operating account (earnings from the Washington horse racing commission operating account must be credited to the Washington horse 16 17 racing commission class C purse fund account), the life sciences 18 discovery fund, the Washington state heritage center account, the 19 reduced cigarette ignition propensity account, and the reading 20 achievement account.

- (c) The following accounts and funds must receive eighty percent of their proportionate share of earnings based upon each account's or fund's average daily balance for the period: The advanced right-of-way revolving fund, the advanced environmental mitigation revolving account, the federal narcotics asset forfeitures account, the high occupancy vehicle account, the local rail service assistance account, and the miscellaneous transportation programs account.
- (d) Any state agency that has independent authority over accounts or funds not statutorily required to be held in the custody of the state treasurer that deposits funds into a fund or account in the custody of the state treasurer pursuant to an agreement with the office of the state treasurer shall receive its proportionate share of earnings based upon each account's or fund's average daily balance for the period.
- 35 (5) In conformance with Article II, section 37 of the state 36 Constitution, no trust accounts or funds shall be allocated earnings 37 without the specific affirmative directive of this section.

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- (1) All earnings of investments of surplus balances in the state treasury shall be deposited to the treasury income account, which account is hereby established in the state treasury.
- (2) The treasury income account shall be utilized to pay or receive funds associated with federal programs as required by the federal cash management improvement act of 1990. The treasury income account is subject in all respects to chapter 43.88 RCW, but no appropriation is required for refunds or allocations of interest earnings required by the cash management improvement act. Refunds of interest to the federal treasury required under the cash management improvement act fall under RCW 43.88.180 and shall not require appropriation. office of financial management shall determine the amounts due to or from the federal government pursuant to the cash management improvement The office of financial management may direct transfers of funds between accounts as deemed necessary to implement the provisions of the cash management improvement act, and this subsection. Refunds or allocations shall occur prior to the distributions of earnings set forth in subsection (4) of this section.
- (3) Except for the provisions of RCW 43.84.160, the treasury income account may be utilized for the payment of purchased banking services on behalf of treasury funds including, but not limited to, depository, safekeeping, and disbursement functions for the state treasury and affected state agencies. The treasury income account is subject in all respects to chapter 43.88 RCW, but no appropriation is required for payments to financial institutions. Payments shall occur prior to distribution of earnings set forth in subsection (4) of this section.
- (4) Monthly, the state treasurer shall distribute the earnings credited to the treasury income account. The state treasurer shall credit the general fund with all the earnings credited to the treasury income account except:
- (a) The following accounts and funds shall receive their proportionate share of earnings based upon each account's and fund's average daily balance for the period: The aeronautics account, the aircraft search and rescue account, the budget stabilization account,

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capital vessel replacement account, the capitol building 1 2 construction account, the Cedar River channel construction and operation account, the Central Washington University capital projects 3 account, the charitable, educational, penal and 4 reformatory institutions account, the cleanup settlement account, the Columbia 5 6 river basin water supply development account, the Columbia river basin 7 taxable bond water supply development account, the Columbia river basin 8 water supply revenue recovery account, the common school construction 9 fund, the county arterial preservation account, the county criminal 10 justice assistance account, the county sales and use tax equalization 11 account, the deferred compensation administrative account, the deferred 12 compensation principal account, the department of licensing services 13 account, the department of retirement systems expense account, the developmental disabilities community trust account, the drinking water 14 15 assistance account, the drinking water assistance administrative account, the drinking water assistance repayment account, the Eastern 16 17 Washington University capital projects account, the Interstate 405 18 express toll lanes operations account, the education construction fund, 19 the education legacy trust account, the election account, the energy 20 freedom account, the energy recovery act account, the essential rail 21 assistance account, The Evergreen State College capital projects 22 account, the federal forest revolving account, the ferry bond 23 retirement fund, the freight congestion relief account, the freight 24 mobility investment account, the freight mobility multimodal account, the grade crossing protective fund, the public health services account, 25 26 the health system capacity account, the high capacity transportation 27 account, the state higher education construction account, the higher education construction account, the highway bond retirement fund, the 28 highway infrastructure account, the highway safety account, the high 29 30 occupancy toll lanes operations account, the hospital safety net assessment fund, the industrial insurance premium refund account, the 31 judges' retirement account, the judicial retirement administrative 32 33 account, the judicial retirement principal account, the local leasehold excise tax account, the local real estate excise tax account, the local 34 sales and use tax account, the marine resources stewardship trust 35 36 account, the medical aid account, the mobile home park relocation fund, 37 the motor vehicle fund, the motorcycle safety education account, ((the 38 multiagency permitting team account,)) the multimodal transportation

account, the municipal criminal justice assistance account, the 1 2 municipal sales and use tax equalization account, the natural resources deposit account, the oyster reserve land account, the pension funding 3 4 stabilization account, the perpetual surveillance and maintenance account, the public employees' retirement system plan 1 account, the 5 public employees' retirement system combined plan 2 and plan 3 account, 6 7 the public facilities construction loan revolving account beginning 8 July 1, 2004, the public health supplemental account, the public 9 transportation systems account, the public works assistance account, the Puget Sound capital construction account, the Puget Sound ferry 10 11 operations account, the Puyallup tribal settlement account, the real 12 estate appraiser commission account, the recreational vehicle account, the regional mobility grant program account, the resource management 13 cost account, the rural arterial trust account, the rural mobility 14 grant program account, the rural Washington loan fund, the site closure 15 account, the skilled nursing facility safety net trust fund, the small 16 17 city pavement and sidewalk account, the special category C account, the 18 special wildlife account, the state employees' insurance account, the 19 state employees' insurance reserve account, the state investment board 20 expense account, the state investment board commingled trust fund 21 accounts, the state patrol highway account, the state route number 520 22 civil penalties account, the state route number 520 corridor account, 23 the state wildlife account, the supplemental pension account, the 24 Tacoma Narrows toll bridge account, the teachers' retirement system 25 plan 1 account, the teachers' retirement system combined plan 2 and 26 plan 3 account, the tobacco prevention and control account, the tobacco 27 settlement account, the transportation 2003 account (nickel account), the transportation equipment fund, the transportation fund, the 28 transportation improvement account, the transportation improvement 29 30 board bond retirement account, the transportation infrastructure account, the transportation partnership account, the traumatic brain 31 32 injury account, the tuition recovery trust fund, the University of Washington bond retirement fund, the University of Washington building 33 account, the volunteer firefighters' and reserve officers' relief and 34 35 pension principal fund, the volunteer firefighters' and reserve 36 officers' administrative fund, the Washington judicial retirement 37 system account, the Washington law enforcement officers' 38 firefighters' system plan 1 retirement account, the Washington law

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- enforcement officers' and firefighters' system plan 2 retirement 1 2 account, the Washington public safety employees' plan 2 retirement account, the Washington school employees' retirement system combined 3 plan 2 and 3 account, the Washington state economic development 4 5 commission account, the Washington state health insurance pool account, the Washington state patrol retirement account, the Washington State 6 7 University building account, the Washington State University bond 8 retirement fund, the water pollution control revolving fund, and the Western Washington University capital projects account. 9 10 derived from investing balances of the agricultural permanent fund, the 11 normal school permanent fund, the permanent common school fund, the 12 scientific permanent fund, and the state university permanent fund 13 shall be allocated to their respective beneficiary accounts.
 - (b) Any state agency that has independent authority over accounts or funds not statutorily required to be held in the state treasury that deposits funds into a fund or account in the state treasury pursuant to an agreement with the office of the state treasurer shall receive its proportionate share of earnings based upon each account's or fund's average daily balance for the period.
- 20 (5) In conformance with Article II, section 37 of the state 21 Constitution, no treasury accounts or funds shall be allocated earnings 22 without the specific affirmative directive of this section.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 8. A new section is added to chapter 43.42 RCW to read as follows:
- 25 The office of regulatory assistance may certify permit processes at 26 the local level as streamlined processes. The director must work with 27 local jurisdictions to establish the criteria and the process for 28 certification. Jurisdictions with permit processes certified as 29 streamlined may receive priority in receipt of state funds for 30 infrastructure projects.
- 31 **Sec. 9.** RCW 43.155.070 and 2009 c 518 s 16 are each amended to read as follows:
- 33 (1) To qualify for loans or pledges under this chapter the board 34 must determine that a local government meets all of the following 35 conditions:

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1 (a) The city or county must be imposing a tax under chapter 82.46 2 RCW at a rate of at least one-quarter of one percent;

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- (b) The local government must have developed a capital facility plan; and
- (c) The local government must be using all local revenue sources which are reasonably available for funding public works, taking into consideration local employment and economic factors.
- (2) Except where necessary to address a public health need or substantial environmental degradation, a county, city, or town planning under RCW 36.70A.040 must have adopted a comprehensive plan, including a capital facilities plan element, and development regulations as required by RCW 36.70A.040. This subsection does not require any county, city, or town planning under RCW 36.70A.040 to adopt a comprehensive plan or development regulations before requesting or receiving a loan or loan guarantee under this chapter if such request is made before the expiration of the time periods specified in RCW 36.70A.040. A county, city, or town planning under RCW 36.70A.040 which has not adopted a comprehensive plan and development regulations within the time periods specified in RCW 36.70A.040 is not prohibited from receiving a loan or loan guarantee under this chapter if the comprehensive plan and development regulations are adopted as required by RCW 36.70A.040 before submitting a request for a loan or loan quarantee.
- (3) In considering awarding loans for public facilities to special districts requesting funding for a proposed facility located in a county, city, or town planning under RCW 36.70A.040, the board ((shall)) must consider whether the county, city, or town planning under RCW 36.70A.040 in whose planning jurisdiction the proposed facility is located has adopted a comprehensive plan and development regulations as required by RCW 36.70A.040.
- (4) The board ((shall)) <u>must</u> develop a priority process for public works projects as provided in this section. The intent of the priority process is to maximize the value of public works projects accomplished with assistance under this chapter. The board ((shall)) <u>must</u> attempt to assure a geographical balance in assigning priorities to projects. The board ((shall)) <u>must</u> consider at least the following factors in assigning a priority to a project:

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(a) Whether the local government receiving assistance has experienced severe fiscal distress resulting from natural disaster or emergency public works needs;

- (b) Except as otherwise conditioned by RCW 43.155.110, whether the entity receiving assistance is a Puget Sound partner, as defined in RCW 90.71.010;
- (c) Whether the project is referenced in the action agenda developed by the Puget Sound partnership under RCW 90.71.310;
- (d) Whether the project is critical in nature and would affect the health and safety of a great number of citizens;
- (e) Whether the applicant's permitting process has been certified as streamlined by the office of regulatory assistance;
- <u>(f)</u> Whether the applicant has developed and adhered to guidelines regarding its permitting process for those applying for development permits consistent with section 1(2), chapter 231, Laws of 2007;
- $((\frac{f}{f}))$ (g) The cost of the project compared to the size of the local government and amount of loan money available;
- $((\frac{g}{g}))$ (h) The number of communities served by or funding the project;
 - $((\frac{h}{h}))$ (i) Whether the project is located in an area of high unemployment, compared to the average state unemployment;
 - $((\frac{i}{i}))$ (j) Whether the project is the acquisition, expansion, improvement, or renovation by a local government of a public water system that is in violation of health and safety standards, including the cost of extending existing service to such a system;
 - $((\frac{1}{2}))$ (k) Except as otherwise conditioned by RCW 43.155.120, and effective one calendar year following the development of model evergreen community management plans and ordinances under RCW 35.105.050, whether the entity receiving assistance has been recognized, and what gradation of recognition was received, in the evergreen community recognition program created in RCW 35.105.030;
 - $((\frac{k}{k}))$ (1) The relative benefit of the project to the community, considering the present level of economic activity in the community and the existing local capacity to increase local economic activity in communities that have low economic growth; and
 - (((1))) (m) Other criteria that the board considers advisable.
- 37 (5) Existing debt or financial obligations of local governments ((shall)) may not be refinanced under this chapter. Each local

government applicant ((shall)) <u>must</u> provide documentation of attempts to secure additional local or other sources of funding for each public works project for which financial assistance is sought under this chapter.

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- (6) Before November 1st of each even-numbered year, the board ((shall)) <u>must</u> develop and submit to the appropriate fiscal committees of the senate and house of representatives a description of the loans made under RCW 43.155.065, 43.155.068, and subsection (9) of this section during the preceding fiscal year and a prioritized list of projects which are recommended for funding by the legislature, including one copy to the staff of each of the committees. The list ((shall)) must include, but not be limited to, a description of each project and recommended financing, the terms and conditions of the loan financial guarantee, the local government jurisdiction and unemployment rate, demonstration of the jurisdiction's critical need for the project and documentation of local funds being used to finance the public works project. The list ((shall)) must also include measures of fiscal capacity for each jurisdiction recommended for financial assistance, compared to authorized limits and state averages, including local government sales taxes; real estate excise taxes; property taxes; and charges for or taxes on sewerage, water, garbage, and other utilities.
- (7) The board ((shall)) may not sign contracts or otherwise financially obligate funds from the public works assistance account before the legislature has appropriated funds for a specific list of public works projects. The legislature may remove projects from the list recommended by the board. The legislature ((shall)) may not change the order of the priorities recommended for funding by the board.
- (8) Subsection (7) of this section does not apply to loans made under RCW 43.155.065, 43.155.068, and subsection (9) of this section.
 - (9) Loans made for the purpose of capital facilities plans ((shall be)) are exempted from subsection (7) of this section.
 - (10) To qualify for loans or pledges for solid waste or recycling facilities under this chapter, a city or county must demonstrate that the solid waste or recycling facility is consistent with and necessary to implement the comprehensive solid waste management plan adopted by the city or county under chapter 70.95 RCW.

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(11) After January 1, 2010, any project designed to address the effects of storm water or wastewater on Puget Sound may be funded under this section only if the project is not in conflict with the action agenda developed by the Puget Sound partnership under RCW 90.71.310.

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- Sec. 10. RCW 43.160.060 and 2008 c 327 s 5 are each amended to read as follows:
- 7 (1) The board is authorized to make direct loans to political subdivisions of the state and to federally recognized Indian tribes for 8 the purposes of assisting the political subdivisions and federally 9 10 recognized Indian tribes in financing the cost of public facilities, 11 including development of land and improvements for public facilities, 12 project-specific environmental, capital facilities, land 13 permitting, feasibility, and marketing studies and plans; project 14 design, site planning, and analysis; project debt and revenue impact analysis; as well as the construction, rehabilitation, alteration, 15 16 expansion, or improvement of the facilities. A grant may also be 17 authorized for purposes designated in this chapter, but only when, and 18 to the extent that, a loan is not reasonably possible, given the limited resources of the political subdivision or the federally 19 20 recognized Indian tribe and the finding by the board that financial 21 circumstances require grant assistance to enable the project to move 22 However, no more than twenty-five percent of all financial 23 assistance approved by the board in any biennium may consist of grants 24 to political subdivisions and federally recognized Indian tribes.
 - (2) Application for funds ((shall)) <u>must</u> be made in the form and manner as the board may prescribe. In making grants or loans the board ((shall)) <u>must</u> conform to the following requirements:
- 28 $((\frac{1}{1}))$ <u>(a)</u> The board $(\frac{1}{1})$ <u>may</u> not provide financial 29 assistance:
- $((\frac{a}{a}))$ (i) For a project the primary purpose of which is to facilitate or promote a retail shopping development or expansion.
 - $((\frac{b}{b}))$ (ii) For any project that evidence exists would result in a development or expansion that would displace existing jobs in any other community in the state.
- $((\frac{c}{c}))$ (iii) For a project the primary purpose of which is to facilitate or promote gambling.

- 1 (((d))) <u>(iv)</u> For a project located outside the jurisdiction of the applicant political subdivision or federally recognized Indian tribe.
- 3 $((\frac{(2)}{2}))$ <u>(b)</u> The board $(\frac{(shall)}{2})$ may only provide financial 4 assistance:

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- $((\frac{a}{a}))$ (i) For a project demonstrating convincing evidence that a specific private development or expansion is ready to occur and will occur only if the public facility improvement is made that:
- $((\frac{1}{2}))$ (A) Results in the creation of significant private sector jobs or significant private sector capital investment as determined by the board and is consistent with the state comprehensive economic development plan developed by the Washington economic development commission pursuant to chapter 43.162 RCW, once the plan is adopted; and
- 14 (((ii))) (B) Will improve the opportunities for the successful 15 maintenance, establishment, or expansion of industrial or commercial 16 plants or will otherwise assist in the creation or retention of long-17 term economic opportunities;
 - $((\frac{b}{b}))$ <u>(ii)</u> For a project that cannot meet the requirement of $((\frac{a}{b}))$ <u>(b)(i)</u> of this subsection but is a project that:
 - $((\frac{1}{1}))$ (A) Results in the creation of significant private sector jobs or significant private sector capital investment as determined by the board and is consistent with the state comprehensive economic development plan developed by the Washington economic development commission pursuant to chapter 43.162 RCW, once the plan is adopted;
 - $((\frac{(ii)}{(ii)}))$ Is part of a local economic development plan consistent with applicable state planning requirements;
 - $((\frac{(iii)}{)}))$ (C) Can demonstrate project feasibility using standard economic principles; and
- 29 $((\frac{(iv)}{)})$ (D) Is located in a rural community as defined by the 30 board, or a rural county;
- 31 (((c))) <u>(iii)</u> For site-specific plans, studies, and analyses that 32 address environmental impacts, capital facilities, land use, 33 permitting, feasibility, marketing, project engineering, design, site 34 planning, and project debt and revenue impacts, as grants not to exceed 35 fifty thousand dollars.
- 36 $((\frac{3}{3}))$ (c) The board $(\frac{3}{3})$ must develop guidelines for local participation and allowable match and activities.

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 $((\frac{4}{}))$ (d) An application must demonstrate local match and local participation, in accordance with guidelines developed by the board.

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- ((+5))) (e) An application must be approved by the political subdivision and supported by the local associate development organization or local workforce development council or approved by the governing body of the federally recognized Indian tribe.
- ((+6))) <u>(f)</u> The board may allow de minimis general system improvements to be funded if they are critically linked to the viability of the project.
- $((\frac{1}{2}))$ (g) An application must demonstrate convincing evidence that the median hourly wage of the private sector jobs created after the project is completed will exceed the countywide median hourly wage.
- 13 $((\frac{8}{)})$ <u>(h)</u> The board $(\frac{shall}{)}$ <u>must</u> prioritize each proposed project according to:
 - $((\frac{1}{2}))$ (i) The relative benefits provided to the community by the jobs the project would create, not just the total number of jobs it would create after the project is completed, but also giving consideration to the unemployment rate in the area in which the jobs would be located;
 - ((\(\frac{(\((\))}{b\)}\))) (ii) The rate of return of the state's investment, including, but not limited to, the leveraging of private sector investment, anticipated job creation and retention, and expected increases in state and local tax revenues associated with the project;
 - $((\mbox{$((\mbox{$((\mbox{$((\mbox{$((\mbox{$((\mbox{$((\mbox{$((\mbox{$((\mbox{$((\mbox{$((\mbox{$((\mbox{$((\mbox{$(()$})})})$ given})}}}))}}$ insurance plan for employees that includes an option for dependents of employees;
 - $((\frac{d}{d}))$ (iv) Whether the public facility investment will increase existing capacity necessary to accommodate projected population and employment growth in a manner that supports infill and redevelopment of existing urban or industrial areas that are served by adequate public should facilities. Projects maximize the use of existing infrastructure and provide for adequate funding of necessary transportation improvements; ((and
 - (e))) (v) Whether the applicant's permitting process has been certified as streamlined by the office of regulatory assistance; and
 - (vi) Whether the applicant has developed and adhered to guidelines regarding its permitting process for those applying for development permits consistent with section 1(2), chapter 231, Laws of 2007.

 $((\frac{(9)}{)})$ (i) A responsible official of the political subdivision or the federally recognized Indian tribe $(\frac{(shall)}{)}$ must be present during board deliberations and provide information that the board requests.

(3) Before any financial assistance application is approved, the political subdivision or the federally recognized Indian tribe seeking the assistance must demonstrate to the community economic revitalization board that no other timely source of funding is available to it at costs reasonably similar to financing available from the community economic revitalization board.

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