
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5235

State of Washington

64th Legislature

2015 Regular Session

By Senate Government Operations & Security (originally sponsored by Senators Sheldon, Rivers, Angel, and Chase)

READ FIRST TIME 02/13/15.

1 AN ACT Relating to requiring a state resident preference on
2 competitive examinations for public employment; adding new sections
3 to chapter 41.06 RCW; and creating new sections.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that:

6 (1) Unemployment and underemployment among state residents is
7 unacceptably high;

8 (2) Recruitment and advertisement normally attract an abundance
9 of qualified applicants who are state residents;

10 (3) State jobs are funded by taxpayer money;

11 (4) Washington state has an excellent system of universities,
12 colleges, community colleges, and technical schools;

13 (5) Immigration to the state of Washington is environmentally
14 damaging because the state is already overpopulated, creating
15 dangerous levels of water pollution, especially in Puget Sound, and
16 will further stress an increasingly dysfunctional transportation
17 system;

18 (6) The current hiring system does not have any type of state
19 resident preference; and

1 (7) The state of Washington has the opportunity to be a model
2 employer in terms of using and developing local people to fill most
3 job openings.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 41.06
5 RCW to read as follows:

6 (1) Beginning January 31, 2016, and each December 31st
7 thereafter, state agencies employing one hundred or more people must
8 submit a report to the director of the office of financial
9 management, with copies to the superintendent of public instruction
10 and state university and college administrators.

11 (2) The report must include the following information:

12 (a) The number of employees hired during the previous calendar
13 year;

14 (b) The number of employees hired from outside Washington state;

15 (c) A list of reasons why the jobs could not be filled by a
16 resident of Washington state;

17 (d) The number of planned hires for the current year; and

18 (e) Opportunities for internships for job types with a history of
19 being filled by out-of-state residents.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 41.06
21 RCW to read as follows:

22 In all competitive examinations to determine the qualifications
23 of applicants for public offices, positions, or employment, either
24 the state, and all of its political subdivisions and all municipal
25 corporations, or private companies or agencies contracted with by the
26 state to give the competitive examinations, shall give a scoring
27 criteria status to all state residents as defined in RCW 73.16.031 by
28 adding two points to the passing mark, grade, or rating only, based
29 upon a possible rating of one hundred points as perfect.

30 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act may be known and cited as the
31 state employment resident hiring preference act.

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