
SENATE BILL 6220

State of Washington 64th Legislature 2016 Regular Session

By Senators Brown, Angel, Braun, Hewitt, Roach, Parlette, and Sheldon

Read first time 01/13/16. Referred to Committee on Trade & Economic Development.

1 AN ACT Relating to promoting economic development by maximizing
2 the use of federal economic development funding opportunities; and
3 amending RCW 43.330.040 and 43.330.050.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 43.330.040 and 1993 c 280 s 6 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (1) The director shall supervise and administer the activities of
8 the department and shall advise the governor and the legislature with
9 respect to community and economic development matters affecting the
10 state.

11 (2) In addition to other powers and duties granted to the
12 director, the director shall have the following powers and duties:

13 (a) Enter into contracts on behalf of the state to carry out the
14 purposes of this chapter;

15 (b) Act for the state in the initiation of or participation in
16 any multigovernmental program relative to the purpose of this
17 chapter;

18 (c) Accept and expend gifts and grants, whether such grants be of
19 federal or other funds;

20 (d) Appoint such deputy directors, assistant directors, and up to
21 seven special assistants as may be needed to administer the

1 department. These employees are exempt from the provisions of chapter
2 41.06 RCW;

3 (e) Prepare and submit budgets for the department for executive
4 and legislative action;

5 (f) Submit recommendations for legislative actions as are deemed
6 necessary to further the purposes of this chapter;

7 (g) Adopt rules in accordance with chapter 34.05 RCW and perform
8 all other functions necessary and proper to carry out the purposes of
9 this chapter;

10 (h) Delegate powers, duties, and functions as the director deems
11 necessary for efficient administration, but the director shall be
12 responsible for the official acts of the officers and employees of
13 the department; and

14 (i) Perform other duties as are necessary and consistent with
15 law.

16 (3) When federal or other funds are received by the department,
17 they shall be promptly transferred to the state treasurer and
18 thereafter expended only upon the approval of the director. The
19 department must track the amount of federal economic development
20 funding received and disbursed along with any required state, local,
21 or other matching requirements and annually provide the information
22 to the economic development committees of the house of
23 representatives and the senate.

24 (4) The director may request information and assistance from all
25 other agencies, departments, and officials of the state, and may
26 reimburse such agencies, departments, or officials if such a request
27 imposes any additional expenses upon any such agency, department, or
28 official.

29 (5) The director shall, in carrying out the responsibilities of
30 office, consult with governmental officials, private groups, and
31 individuals and with officials of other states. All state agencies
32 and their officials and the officials of any political subdivision of
33 the state shall cooperate with and give such assistance to the
34 department, including the submission of requested information, to
35 allow the department to carry out its purposes under this chapter.

36 (6) The director may establish additional advisory or
37 coordinating groups with the legislature, within state government,
38 with state and other governmental units, with the private sector and
39 nonprofit entities or in specialized subject areas as may be
40 necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter.

1 (7) The internal affairs of the department shall be under the
2 control of the director in order that the director may manage the
3 department in a flexible and intelligent manner as dictated by
4 changing contemporary circumstances. Unless specifically limited by
5 law, the director shall have complete charge and supervisory powers
6 over the department. The director may create such administrative
7 structures as the director deems appropriate, except as otherwise
8 specified by law, and the director may employ such personnel as may
9 be necessary in accordance with chapter 41.06 RCW, except as
10 otherwise provided by law.

11 **Sec. 2.** RCW 43.330.050 and 2014 c 112 s 110 are each amended to
12 read as follows:

13 The department shall be responsible for promoting community and
14 economic development within the state by assisting the state's
15 communities to increase the quality of life of their citizens and
16 their economic vitality, and by assisting the state's businesses to
17 maintain and increase their economic competitiveness, while
18 maintaining a healthy environment. Community and economic development
19 efforts shall include: Efforts to increase economic opportunity;
20 local planning to manage growth; the promotion and provision of
21 affordable housing and housing-related services; providing public
22 infrastructure; business and trade development; assisting firms and
23 industrial sectors to increase their competitiveness; fostering the
24 development of minority and women-owned businesses; facilitating
25 technology development, transfer, and diffusion; community services
26 and advocacy for low-income persons; and public safety efforts. The
27 department shall have the following general functions and
28 responsibilities:

29 (1) Provide advisory assistance to the governor, other state
30 agencies, and the legislature on community and economic development
31 matters and issues;

32 (2) Assist the governor in coordinating the activities of state
33 agencies that have an impact on local government and communities;

34 (3) Cooperate with the legislature and the governor in the
35 development and implementation of strategic plans for the state's
36 community and economic development efforts;

37 (4) Solicit private and federal grants for economic and community
38 development programs and administer such programs in conjunction with
39 other programs assigned to the department by the governor or the

1 legislature. To maximize the impact of federal funding for economic
2 development, the department must coordinate with federal and state
3 public research facilities to leverage other federal funding coming
4 to the state for research, development, innovation of new
5 technologies, and transfer of technology to the private sector to
6 promote business development and jobs in Washington;

7 (5) Cooperate with and provide technical and financial assistance
8 to local governments, businesses, and community-based organizations
9 serving the communities of the state for the purpose of aiding and
10 encouraging orderly, productive, and coordinated development of the
11 state, and, unless stipulated otherwise, give additional
12 consideration to local communities and individuals with the greatest
13 relative need and the fewest resources;

14 (6) Participate with other states or subdivisions thereof in
15 interstate programs and assist cities, counties, municipal
16 corporations, governmental conferences or councils, and regional
17 planning commissions to participate with other states and provinces
18 or their subdivisions;

19 (7) Hold public hearings and meetings to carry out the purposes
20 of this chapter;

21 (8) Conduct research and analysis in furtherance of the state's
22 economic and community development efforts including maintenance of
23 current information on market, demographic, and economic trends as
24 they affect different industrial sectors, geographic regions, and
25 communities with special economic and social problems in the state;
26 and

27 (9) Develop a schedule of fees for services where appropriate.

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