

**SB 5251-S4.E - DIGEST**

(DIGEST AS ENACTED)

Establishes the statewide tourism marketing act.

Creates the Washington tourism marketing authority to contract for statewide tourism marketing services that promote tourism on behalf of the citizens of the state and manage the authority's financial resources.

Requires the department of commerce to provide administrative assistance to the authority and serve as the fiscal agent of the authority for money appropriated for purposes of the authority.

Requires the joint legislative audit and review committee to conduct an evaluation of the performance of the authority to determine the extent to which the authority has contributed to the growth of the tourism industry and economic development of the state.

Creates the statewide tourism marketing account.

Requires 0.2 percent of taxes collected on retail sales of lodging, car rentals, and restaurants to be deposited in the statewide tourism marketing account beginning July 1, 2018.