

ESHB 2879 - S COMM AMD

By Committee on Financial Institutions, Economic Development & Trade

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that manufacturing
4 jobs are important to all regions of Washington because of their
5 above-average wages and strong benefits. Manufacturing industries
6 employ more than two hundred eighty-seven thousand people in
7 Washington. Manufacturers help drive Washington's economy, producing
8 more than fifty-eight billion dollars in goods annually and
9 accounting for nearly twelve percent of the gross state product. More
10 than eighty percent of Washington exports are manufactured goods. The
11 legislature finds that due to a complex variety of factors from
12 global competition, automation, regulatory factors, and productivity
13 gains, this sector of the economy has had output growth without
14 experiencing the desired employment growth during this cycle of
15 economic growth for the country and our state. The legislature
16 intends to investigate these factors and discuss with private sector
17 partners the full spectrum of policy levers that could improve and
18 sustain long-term job growth and regulatory certainty for this
19 critical sector of our economy. Therefore, the legislature intends
20 that the department of commerce provide a report, in consultation
21 with in-state manufacturing partners.

22 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) To the extent funds are appropriated
23 for this purpose, the department of commerce must convene an advisory
24 committee and develop a report and recommendations to the legislature
25 on public policies that may help foster growth of manufacturing
26 industries and jobs.

27 (2)(a) To the extent practicable, the advisory committee must
28 include members nominated by manufacturing associations representing:

- 29 (i) Aerospace;
30 (ii) Food;
31 (iii) Beverages;
32 (iv) Wood products;

- 1 (v) Primary metal;
- 2 (vi) Machinery;
- 3 (vii) Computer and electronic products;
- 4 (viii) Furniture and related products;
- 5 (ix) Transportation equipment;
- 6 (x) Chemical;
- 7 (xi) Plastics and rubber products;
- 8 (xii) Paper products;
- 9 (xiii) Printing and related support activities;
- 10 (xiv) Maritime; and
- 11 (xv) Clean energy.

12 (b) The department of commerce will work with specified
13 manufacturing associations to ensure that each region of the state is
14 represented on the advisory committee.

15 (c) In developing the report, the department of commerce will
16 consult with representatives from the association of Washington
17 businesses, the manufacturing extension partnership at the national
18 institute of standards and technology, and the Washington state
19 centers of excellence.

20 (3) The department of commerce must convene at least two meetings
21 of the advisory committee before October 31, 2020, and provide a
22 report to the legislature on these meetings by December 1, 2020. The
23 report must consider infrastructure, workforce development resources,
24 and regulatory conditions that support the growth and sustainability
25 of the manufacturing sector. The department of commerce may
26 consolidate and present results from previous studies and task force
27 recommendations including, but not limited to, studies produced by
28 the state's manufacturing extension partnership, the future of work
29 task force, and existing state strategies for sector-based economic
30 development.

31 (4) This section expires June 30, 2021."

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32 On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "manufacturing;" strike the
33 remainder of the title and insert "creating new sections; and
34 providing an expiration date."

EFFECT: Characterizes the final deliverable as a report, rather than a study. Directs the Department of Commerce to consult with the Association of Washington Businesses, the Manufacturing Extension Partnership at the National Institute of Standards and Technology, and the Washington State Centers of Excellence.

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