

SHB 1783 - S COMM AMD
By Committee on Ways & Means

ADOPTED 04/11/2023

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

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that access to
4 economic development assistance from government and philanthropic
5 sources typically requires careful and skilled writing of grant
6 applications. The legislature finds that trained and skilled grant
7 writers are scarce, and particularly difficult to find in distressed
8 areas with higher rates of unemployment that need economic
9 development assistance. Therefore, the legislature intends to provide
10 the department of commerce with the authority and resources necessary
11 to ensure each county associate development organization can recruit
12 and retain a grant writer.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 43.330
14 RCW to read as follows:

15 (1) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this
16 specific purpose, by July 1, 2024, the department shall establish a
17 grant program to support associate development organizations in the
18 recruiting, hiring, and retention of grant writers. The department
19 must award grants on an annual basis and must prioritize grants for
20 distressed areas as defined under RCW 43.168.020.

21 (2) Associate development organizations must apply for the grant
22 program in a manner to be determined by the department.

23 (3) Associate development organizations that receive awards under
24 this section must provide information on the use of the funds,
25 including a description of the associate development organization's
26 recruiting and hiring efforts and, if applicable, the number and
27 types of grants applied for by the grant writers funded by the state,
28 in their annual reports to the department required under RCW
29 43.330.082.

30 (4) Beginning December 31, 2026, the department must include
31 information on grant award funding and use in its reports to the

1 legislature on associate development organizations contracts required
2 under RCW 43.330.082.

3 (5) The department shall adopt rules to implement this section."

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4 On page 1, line 2 of this title, after "writers;" strike the
5 remainder of the title and insert "adding a new section to chapter
6 43.330 RCW; and creating a new section."

EFFECT: Allows grant funding to be used for less than full-time grant writers.

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