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**SENATE BILL 5146**

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**State of Washington**

**69th Legislature**

**2025 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Gildon, Braun, Christian, Dozier, Fortunato, Wagoner, Warnick, and J. Wilson

Prefiled 01/07/25. Read first time 01/13/25. Referred to Committee on State Government, Tribal Affairs & Elections.

1 AN ACT Relating to creating a portal to identify opportunities  
2 for increased government efficiency; adding a new section to chapter  
3 44.04 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** It is the intent of the legislature to  
6 ensure taxpayer dollars are invested appropriately and efficiently.  
7 The legislature recognizes that state employees, especially those  
8 directly involved in the delivery of services to the public, are  
9 likely to have detailed knowledge that would help identify  
10 opportunities for eliminating unnecessary, inefficient, or even  
11 unlawful spending.

12 Additionally, the legislature recognizes the ability of members  
13 of the public, through their personal experience or observation, to  
14 identify spending that appears to be wasteful or fraudulent and  
15 therefore deserving of formal scrutiny. The legislature is aware of  
16 federal efforts to increase the efficiency of government and  
17 eliminate waste and intends to enlist the assistance of state  
18 employees and the public in pursuing the same beneficial outcome.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 44.04  
20 RCW to read as follows:

1           (1) The secretary of the senate and the chief clerk of the house  
2 of representatives shall jointly establish and administer the  
3 government efficiency portal for state employees and other persons to  
4 identify state government services that are delivered in a  
5 duplicative, wasteful, or inefficient manner.

6           (2) The government efficiency portal must be accessible from a  
7 publicly available website that is optimized, to the extent possible,  
8 to allow persons with disabilities and persons using mobile devices  
9 to access the portal.

10          (3) The government efficiency portal must contain fields for the  
11 user to input the following information:

12           (a) The person's name and address, with the option for the user  
13 to submit information through the portal anonymously;

14           (b) The state agency about which information is being submitted,  
15 if known;

16           (c) The policy area of government about which information is  
17 being submitted;

18           (d) Whether the person is a state employee; and

19           (e) A description of the government services being delivered in a  
20 duplicative, wasteful, or inefficient manner.

21          (4) By January 10th of each year, the secretary of the senate and  
22 the chief clerk of the house of representatives must provide for the  
23 transmission of all submissions to the government efficiency portal  
24 from the previous calendar year to the chairs and ranking members of  
25 the senate ways and means committee and the house appropriations  
26 committee or their successor committees.

27          (5) State employees who submit suggestions for remediating  
28 duplication, waste, and inefficiency in the delivery of state  
29 services through the government efficiency portal that are  
30 implemented and result in net savings, revenue, or both to the state  
31 shall be eligible for cash awards under RCW 41.60.041.

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