
HOUSE BILL 1631

State of Washington 54th Legislature 1995 Regular Session

By Representatives Jacobsen, Carlson, Van Luven and Sheldon

Read first time 02/02/95. Referred to Committee on Trade & Economic Development.

1 AN ACT Relating to international education and cultural and trade
2 exchanges; adding new sections to chapter 43.07 RCW; creating new
3 sections; and providing an expiration date.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The international education and exchange
6 council is created in the secretary of state's office. The council is
7 established as a public-private partnership. The purpose of the
8 council is to assist the governor, the legislature, elected state
9 officials, state and local agencies, educational institutions,
10 businesses, and organizations that foster international education and
11 cultural exchanges as these organizations and agencies attempt to
12 implement and further develop Washington's efforts to work with
13 targeted training partners and with educational and trade organizations
14 from outside the United States.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The initial members of the council may
16 include, but need not be limited to:

1 (a) Representatives from the department of community, trade, and
2 economic development; the department of agriculture; the office of the
3 secretary of state; and the office of protocol;

4 (b) Two members of the house of representatives, one from each
5 caucus, selected by the speaker of the house of representatives;

6 (c) Two members of the senate, one from each caucus, selected by
7 the president of the senate;

8 (d) Representatives of the common schools and public and private
9 institutions of higher education;

10 (e) Representatives of the businesses community who are working in
11 state international trade efforts;

12 (f) Representatives of organizations dedicated to international
13 trade and cultural exchanges; and

14 (g) Interested members of the public selected by the secretary of
15 state.

16 (2) The initial nonlegislative members shall be selected by the
17 governor and the secretary of state.

18 (3) When the initial board members leave the council, any
19 replacements shall be selected by members of the council.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The duties of the council may include, but
21 need not be limited to:

22 (1) Advising the governor, elected state officials, the
23 legislature, and others as appropriate on the needs of Washington state
24 for international education and cultural exchange opportunities;

25 (2) Assisting efforts by state and local governments, business,
26 education, and others to work with businesses, governmental units,
27 educational institutions, and organizations outside the United States,
28 with an emphasis on organizations, businesses, agencies, and
29 educational institutions in the countries that comprise Washington's
30 targeted trading partners.

31 (3) Promoting efforts to enhance cultural and education exchange
32 opportunities;

33 (4) Maintaining a data base on cultural exchange opportunities and
34 state residents who have participated in international exchanges;

35 (5) Monitoring the implementation of the recommendations of the
36 Washington task force on international education and cultural
37 exchanges; and

38 (6) Undertaking other duties as assigned.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The council may establish a private,
2 nonprofit corporation created specifically to foster international
3 education and cultural exchanges. Any such private, nonprofit
4 corporation shall qualify as a tax-exempt, nonprofit corporation under
5 section 501(c) of the federal internal revenue code.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** The secretary of state and the council may
7 accept gifts, grants, conveyances, bequests, and devises, of real or
8 personal property, or both, in trust or otherwise, and sell, lease,
9 exchange, invest, or expend these donations or the proceeds, rents,
10 profits, and income from the donations except as limited by the donor's
11 terms. The secretary of state shall adopt rules to govern and protect
12 the receipt and expenditure of the proceeds.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** The legislature believes that Washington
14 state has hundreds of residents with expertise that they are willing to
15 share with developing international trade partners on a volunteer
16 basis. The legislature believes that by sharing their knowledge and
17 skills, these residents could enrich the lives of all Washingtonians by
18 promoting friendship and understanding between cultures, providing
19 trained manpower improving the lives of their friends overseas, and
20 creating a positive international image of Washington state.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** The secretary of state may develop a pilot
22 project to furnish developing international trading partners with
23 technical assistance, training, and expertise through the voluntary
24 services provided by Washington residents. The secretary of state
25 shall establish appropriate procedures to carry out the project. The
26 secretary of state may appoint a director of the project who serves at
27 the pleasure of the secretary of state, and appropriate staff as
28 funding allows, however, the secretary of state shall be responsible
29 for the continuous supervision and general direction of the project.

30 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** (1) The secretary of state may enroll in the
31 project residents of Washington state. These residents, referred to in
32 this section and section 4 of this act as volunteers, shall be selected
33 based on their skills, expertise, and language proficiency, the
34 technical, educational, or training needs of the participating country,
35 and other considerations deemed relevant by the secretary of state to

1 furthering the goals and purposes of the project. The secretary of
2 state shall consider for participation in the program retired persons,
3 students, and persons whose skills and backgrounds will contribute to
4 the success of the program. In carrying out this subsection, there
5 shall be no discrimination against any person based on race, sex,
6 creed, or color.

7 (2) Volunteers shall not be deemed officers or employees of the
8 state of Washington or otherwise in the service or employment of, or
9 holding office under, the state of Washington.

10 (3) The terms and conditions of the enrollment, training,
11 compensation, hours of work, benefits, leave, termination, and all
12 other conditions of service of volunteers shall be exclusively those
13 set forth by the terms of the project. Service as a volunteer may be
14 terminated at any time at the pleasure of the secretary of state.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** (1) If funding is available, volunteers may
16 be provided with living, travel, and leave allowances, and such
17 housing, transportation, supplies, and equipment as the secretary of
18 state may deem necessary for their maintenance and to ensure their
19 health and their capacity to serve effectively. Transportation may be
20 provided to volunteers for travel to and from the country of service.

21 (2) The secretary of state may establish policies regarding
22 arrangements for spouses and children of volunteers to accompany the
23 volunteers abroad.

24 (3) The secretary of state shall indemnify the state for claims
25 relating to the project.

26 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 10.** Funding for the volunteer activities shall
27 come entirely from federal funds, private support funds, grant money
28 available to implement technical assistance programs overseas, and such
29 other funds as the secretary of state may receive from nonstate
30 sources.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 11.** A new section is added to chapter 43.07 RCW
32 to read as follows:

33 (1) The legislature finds that knowledge of international exchange
34 students who have studied in Washington state institutions of higher
35 education, especially those from key trading partner countries, and
36 knowledge of Washington state students, interns, and citizens working

1 and studying abroad, is critical to the ability of Washington
2 businesses and citizens to establish contacts and networks in the
3 competitive world market.

4 (2) The secretary of state shall develop and maintain a data base,
5 to be known as the international contact data base, listing (a)
6 Washington students, interns, and citizens working and studying
7 overseas; (b) international students who have studied at Washington
8 educational institutions; and (c) exchange opportunities for Washington
9 residents wishing to participate in education, internships, or
10 technical assistance programs in the areas of agriculture,
11 hydroelectric power, aerospace, computers and technology, academics,
12 medicine, and communications. The data base shall be designed to be
13 used as a resource for Washington citizens, businesses, and other
14 entities seeking contacts in international trade markets overseas.

15 (3) The department of community, trade, and economic development
16 and the office of protocol shall assist the secretary of state in
17 designing and developing the data base and in obtaining data for
18 inclusion in the data base. Four-year educational institutions and
19 their alumni associations are encouraged to maintain data concerning
20 students studying or working abroad, international students attending
21 their institutions, and exchange opportunities available to their
22 students and other citizens, and to make such data freely available to
23 the secretary of state for inclusion in the data base.

24 (4) The information contained in the data base shall be made
25 available on request for inspection or copying for free or at cost.
26 The secretary of state shall not distinguish among persons requesting
27 information from the data base, though the secretary of state may
28 request information from requesters for purposes of monitoring trade
29 contacts and evaluating the uses and effectiveness of the data base.

30 (5) Any person listed in the data base may request in writing that
31 his or her name, address, telephone number, or other identifying
32 information be omitted from the data base. Nothing in this section
33 prohibits the secretary of state from refusing to disclose information
34 exempt from disclosure under RCW 42.17.310.

35 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 12.** The department of community, trade, and
36 economic development, in consultation with the office of protocol, the
37 office of the secretary of state, the department of agriculture, and
38 the employment security department shall identify up to fifteen

1 countries that are of strategic importance to the development of
2 Washington's international trade relations.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 13.** Sections 1 through 5 of this act are each
4 added to chapter 43.07 RCW.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 14.** Sections 6 through 10 and 12 of this act
6 shall expire December 31, 1999.

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