
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5932

State of Washington

54th Legislature

1995 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Labor, Commerce & Trade (originally sponsored by Senators Drew, Pelz, Schow, Deccio and Prince)

Read first time 03/01/95.

1 AN ACT Relating to establishing the Washington alliance for
2 manufacturing; adding a new section to chapter 43.330 RCW; adding a new
3 section to chapter 28B.50 RCW; adding a new chapter to Title 24 RCW;
4 creating a new section; and making an appropriation.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that:

7 (a) To perform in the global marketplace, smaller Washington firms
8 must master advanced technologies and production processes, incorporate
9 best management practices, and adopt modern business and work force
10 approaches;

11 (b) Only through modernization can Washington firms both compete
12 successfully and pay good wages;

13 (c) There are few mechanisms for most firms to learn from the
14 experiences of the most competitive firms and few models of inter-firm
15 cooperation in modernization; and

16 (d) To be effective, modernization assistance must be industry
17 driven.

18 (2) It is the intent of the legislature that the state increase its
19 support for delivery of modernization services to Washington's smaller

1 manufacturers and leverage federal and private resources devoted to
2 such efforts. The purpose of this act is to assist in meeting the
3 modernization needs of smaller manufacturers and to support the
4 development and growth of a manufacturing extension system in
5 Washington state.

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

8 (1) In carrying out the targeted sector assistance authorized under
9 RCW 43.330.090, the department shall serve as a partner in the
10 operation of a manufacturing extension system that includes the
11 Washington alliance for manufacturing, consistent with this section and
12 sections 3 and 4 of this act. The department shall: (a) Assist
13 extension service partners in applying for federal and private grants;
14 (b) assist extension service partners in a state-wide planning process
15 to determine the modernization needs of key industry sectors and
16 geographic regions and optimum mechanisms for delivering modernization
17 services; and (c) contract with extension service partners for delivery
18 of client-directed problem-solving services that will assist the
19 modernization efforts of manufacturing firms, industry associations,
20 networks, and consortiums in targeted sectors.

21 (2) The department, in consultation with an advisory committee
22 composed of two labor and two business members, appointed by the
23 director, shall report annually on the effectiveness of extension
24 service partners to the governor and the appropriate legislative
25 committees.

26 (3) In carrying out the requirements of this section, the
27 department shall make use of the expertise available to it as a member
28 of USNet and available from other federally funded modernization
29 projects in the state.

30 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The Washington alliance for manufacturing
31 shall be organized under Title 24 RCW. The mission of the alliance
32 shall be to operate a modernization extension system, coordinate a
33 network of public and private modernization resources, and stimulate
34 the competitiveness of smaller manufacturers within the state. The
35 alliance shall jointly conduct with the department of community, trade,
36 and economic development a state-wide planning process to determine the
37 modernization needs of key industry sectors and geographic regions and

1 optimum mechanisms for delivering modernization services. The alliance
2 shall provide the department of community, trade, and economic
3 development data on employment growth on firms served and such other
4 data as the department requests for evaluation of the alliance's
5 effectiveness. The alliance shall not be an instrumentality of the
6 state.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The Washington alliance for manufacturing
8 shall be an organization composed of representatives of small and
9 medium-sized manufacturing firms, organized labor and industry
10 associations, networks, or consortiums. The board of directors of the
11 Washington alliance for manufacturing shall be representative of the
12 groups mentioned in this section.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.50 RCW
14 to read as follows:

15 In order to assist the Washington alliance for manufacturing in
16 brokering training programs to small manufacturers, the state board for
17 community and technical colleges shall develop competency-based
18 technical degree programs to be offered by community and technical
19 colleges serving modernizing firms. The programs shall include quality
20 management training and assist small and medium-sized firms in the
21 development of work-based learning to enhance the skills and knowledge
22 of workers performing modern work processes.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** Sections 3 and 4 of this act shall
24 constitute a new chapter in Title 24 RCW.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** The sum of one million dollars, or as much
26 thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the biennium ending
27 June 30, 1997, from the general fund to the department of community,
28 trade, and economic development for the purposes of section 2 of this
29 act.

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