
SENATE BILL 5789

State of Washington

61st Legislature

2009 Regular Session

By Senators King, Marr, and Holmquist

Read first time 02/02/09. Referred to Committee on Higher Education & Workforce Development.

1 AN ACT Relating to establishing additional health sciences and
2 services authorities in certain areas; and amending RCW 35.104.040.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 35.104.040 and 2007 c 251 s 4 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) The higher education coordinating board may approve
7 applications submitted by local governments for an area's designation
8 as a health sciences and services authority under this chapter. The
9 director shall determine the division to review applications submitted
10 by local governments under this chapter. The application for
11 designation shall be in the form and manner and contain such
12 information as the higher education coordinating board may prescribe,
13 provided the application shall:

14 (a) Contain sufficient information to enable the director to
15 determine the viability of the proposal;

16 (b) Demonstrate that an ordinance or resolution has been passed by
17 the legislative authority of a local government that delineates the
18 boundaries of an area that may be designated an authority;

1 (c) Be submitted on behalf of the local government, or, if that
2 office does not exist, by the legislative body of the local government;

3 (d) Demonstrate that the public funds directed to programs or
4 facilities in the authority will leverage private sector resources and
5 contributions to activities to be performed;

6 (e) Provide a plan or plans for the development of the authority as
7 an entity to advance as a cluster for health sciences education, health
8 sciences research, biotechnology development, biotechnology product
9 commercialization, and/or health care services; and

10 (f) Demonstrate that the state has previously provided funds to
11 health sciences and services programs or facilities in the applicant
12 city, town, or county.

13 (2) The director shall determine the division to develop criteria
14 to evaluate the application. The criteria shall include:

15 (a) The presence of infrastructure capable of spurring development
16 of the area as a center of health sciences and services;

17 (b) The presence of higher education facilities where undergraduate
18 or graduate coursework or research is conducted; and

19 (c) The presence of facilities in which health services are
20 provided.

21 (3) There shall be no more than (~~one authority~~) two authorities
22 statewide.

23 (4) An authority may only be created in a county with a population
24 of less than one million persons that is located east of the crest of
25 the Cascade mountains.

26 (5) The director may reject or approve an application. When
27 denying an application, the director must specify the application's
28 deficiencies. The decision regarding such designation as it relates to
29 a specific local government is final; however, a rejected application
30 may be resubmitted.

31 (6) Applications are due by December 31, (~~2007~~) 2009, and must be
32 processed within sixty days of submission.

33 (7) The director may, at his or her discretion, amend the
34 boundaries of an authority upon the request of the local government.

35 (8) The higher education coordinating board may adopt any rules
36 necessary to implement chapter 251, Laws of 2007 within one hundred
37 twenty days of July 22, 2007.

1 (9) The higher education coordinating board must develop evaluation
2 and performance measures in order to evaluate the effectiveness of the
3 programs in the authorities that are funded with public resources. A
4 report to the legislature shall be due on a biennial basis beginning
5 December 1, 2009. In addition, the higher education coordinating board
6 shall develop evaluation criteria that enables the local governments to
7 measure the effectiveness of the program.

--- END ---