
SENATE BILL 5321

State of Washington

62nd Legislature

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By Senators Chase, Kastama, and Shin

Read first time 01/20/11. Referred to Committee on Economic Development, Trade & Innovation.

1 AN ACT Relating to the responsibilities of the department of
2 commerce and associate development organizations; amending RCW
3 43.330.080; and adding a new section to chapter 43.330 RCW.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 43.330 RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 In carrying out its responsibilities under RCW 43.330.060 and
8 43.330.080, the department shall establish protocols to be followed by
9 associate development organizations and department staff for the
10 recruitment and retention of businesses. The protocols must specify
11 the circumstances under which an associate development organization is
12 required to notify the department of its business recruitment and
13 retention efforts and when the department must notify the associate
14 development organization of its business recruitment and retention
15 efforts. Compliance with the protocols must be required of associate
16 development organizations by the department in its contracts with them.

17 **Sec. 2.** RCW 43.330.080 and 2009 c 151 s 10 are each amended to
18 read as follows:

1 The department (~~shall~~) must contract with county-designated
2 associate development organizations to increase the support for and
3 coordination of community and economic development services in
4 communities or regional areas. The organizations contracted within
5 each community or regional area (~~shall~~) must work closely with the
6 department to carry out state-identified economic development
7 priorities and be broadly representative of community and economic
8 interests. The organization (~~shall~~) must be capable of identifying
9 key economic and community development problems, developing appropriate
10 solutions, and mobilizing broad support for recommended initiatives.
11 The contracting organization shall work with and include local
12 governments, local chambers of commerce, workforce development
13 councils, port districts, labor groups, institutions of higher
14 education, community action programs, and other appropriate private,
15 public, or nonprofit community and economic development groups. The
16 scope of services delivered under these contracts (~~shall~~) must
17 include two broad areas of work:

18 (1) Direct assistance, including business planning, to companies
19 who need support to stay in business, expand, or relocate to Washington
20 from out of state or other countries. Assistance includes:

21 (a) Working with the appropriate partners, including but not
22 limited to, local governments, workforce development councils, port
23 districts, community and technical colleges and higher education
24 institutions, export assistance providers, the Washington manufacturing
25 services, the Washington state quality award council, small business
26 assistance programs, and other federal, state, and local programs to
27 facilitate the alignment of planning efforts and the seamless delivery
28 of business support services in the county;

29 (b) Providing information on state and local permitting processes,
30 tax issues, and other essential information for operating, expanding,
31 or locating a business in Washington;

32 (c) Marketing Washington and local areas as excellent locations to
33 expand or relocate a business and positioning Washington as a globally
34 competitive place to grow business, which may include developing and
35 executing regional plans to attract companies from out of state;

36 (d) Working with businesses on site location and selection
37 assistance;

1 (e) Providing business retention and expansion services, including
2 business outreach and monitoring efforts to identify and address
3 challenges and opportunities faced by businesses; and

4 (f) Participating in economic development system-wide discussions
5 regarding gaps in business start-up assistance in Washington; and

6 (2) Support for regional economic research and regional planning
7 efforts to implement target industry sector strategies and other
8 economic development strategies, including cluster-based strategies,
9 that support increased living standards and increase foreign direct
10 investment throughout Washington. Activities include:

11 (a) Participation in regional planning efforts with workforce
12 development councils involving coordinated strategies around workforce
13 development and economic development policies and programs.
14 Coordinated planning efforts (~~shall~~) must include, but not be limited
15 to, assistance to industry clusters in the region;

16 (b) Participation between the contracting organization and the
17 state board for community and technical colleges as created in RCW
18 28B.50.050, and any community and technical colleges in providing for
19 the coordination of the job skills training program and the customized
20 training program within its region;

21 (c) Collecting and reporting data as specified by the contract with
22 the department for statewide systemic analysis. The department
23 (~~shall~~) must consult with the Washington state economic development
24 commission in the establishment of such uniform data as is needed to
25 conduct a statewide systemic analysis of the state's economic
26 development programs and expenditures. In cooperation with other
27 local, regional, and state planning efforts, contracting organizations
28 may provide insight into the needs of target industry clusters,
29 business expansion plans, early detection of potential relocations or
30 layoffs, training needs, and other appropriate economic information;

31 (d) In conjunction with other governmental jurisdictions and
32 institutions, participate in the development of a countywide economic
33 development plan, consistent with the state comprehensive plan for
34 economic development developed by the Washington state economic
35 development commission.

36 In carrying out the provisions of subsection (1)(d) and (e) of this
37 section, the contracting organizations must comply with the business

1 recruitment and retention protocols established by the department under
2 section 1 of this act.

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