
SENATE BILL 5731

State of Washington

62nd Legislature

2011 Regular Session

By Senators Chase, Kastama, Shin, and Conway

Read first time 02/09/11. Referred to Committee on Economic Development, Trade & Innovation.

1 AN ACT Relating to Washington manufacturing services; and amending
2 RCW 24.50.010.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 24.50.010 and 2006 c 34 s 2 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) Washington manufacturing services is organized as a private,
7 nonprofit corporation in accordance with chapter 24.03 RCW and this
8 section. The mission of the ~~((center))~~ corporation is to operate a
9 modernization extension system, coordinate a network of public and
10 private modernization resources, and stimulate the competitiveness of
11 small and midsize manufacturers in Washington.

12 (2) ~~((Washington manufacturing services shall))~~ The corporation
13 must be governed by a board of directors. A majority of the board of
14 directors shall be representatives of small and medium-sized
15 manufacturing firms and industry associations, networks, or consortia.
16 The board ~~((shall))~~ must also include at least one member representing
17 labor unions or labor councils and, as ex officio members, the director
18 of the department of ~~((community, trade, and economic development))~~

1 commerce, the executive director of the state board for community and
2 technical colleges, and the director of the workforce training and
3 education coordinating board, or their respective designees.

4 (3) (~~Washington manufacturing services~~) The corporation may be
5 known as impact Washington and may:

6 (a) Charge fees for services, make and execute contracts with any
7 individual, corporation, association, public agency, or any other
8 entity, and employ all other legal instruments necessary or convenient
9 for the performance of its duties and the exercise of its powers and
10 functions under this chapter; and

11 (b) Receive funds from federal, state, or local governments,
12 private businesses, foundations, or any other source for purposes
13 consistent with this chapter.

14 (4) (~~Washington manufacturing services shall~~) The corporation
15 must:

16 (a) Develop policies, plans, and programs to assist in the
17 modernization of businesses in targeted sectors of Washington's economy
18 and coordinate the delivery of modernization services;

19 (b) Provide information about the advantages of modernization and
20 the modernization services available in the state to federal, state,
21 and local economic development officials, state colleges and
22 universities, and private providers;

23 (c) Collaborate with the Washington quality initiative in the
24 development of manufacturing quality standards and quality
25 certification programs;

26 (d) Serve as an information clearinghouse and provide access for
27 users to the federal manufacturing extension partnership national
28 research and information system; and

29 (e) Provide, either directly or through contracts, assistance to
30 industry or cluster associations, networks, or consortia, that would be
31 of value to their member firms in:

32 (i) Adopting advanced business management practices such as
33 strategic planning and total quality management;

34 (ii) Developing mechanisms for interfirm collaboration and
35 cooperation;

36 (iii) Appraising, purchasing, installing, and effectively using
37 equipment, technologies, and processes that improve the quality of
38 goods and services and the productivity of the firm;

1 (iv) Improving human resource systems and workforce training in a
2 manner that moves firms toward flexible, high-performance work
3 organizations;

4 (v) Developing new products;

5 (vi) Conducting market research, analysis, and development of new
6 sales channels and export markets;

7 (vii) Improving processes to enhance environmental, health, and
8 safety compliance; and

9 (viii) Improving credit, capital management, and business finance
10 skills.

11 (5) A minimum of fifty percent of the funds received by the
12 corporation from the state must be used by the corporation for carrying
13 out the duties under subsection (4)(e) of this section, consistent with
14 the intent of RCW 24.50.005(2).

15 (6) In conjunction with industry sector and cluster associations,
16 the corporation shall conduct workshops on, and provide assistance to
17 manufacturers affected by import competition in, applying for federal
18 trade adjustment assistance financing.

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