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ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL 1147

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State of Washington                      52nd Legislature                      1991 Regular Session

By Representatives Pruitt, Wood, Ogden, Bowman, Anderson, Ferguson, Sprenkle, Jacobsen, Rasmussen and Moyer.

Read first time January 21, 1991. Referred to Committee on State Government.

1            AN ACT Relating to citizen service; amending RCW 43.150.010,  
2 43.150.040, 43.150.050, and 43.150.060; and creating a new section.

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

4            **Sec. 1.** RCW 43.150.010 and 1982 1st ex.s. c 11 s 1 are each  
5 amended to read as follows:

6            (1) The legislature finds that:

7            (a) Large numbers of Washington's citizens are actively engaged in  
8 voluntary activities that benefit their citizens, their communities,  
9 and the entire state;

10            (b) Volunteers, working on their own and with agencies and  
11 organizations, are involved in the development and enhancement of all  
12 areas of community service and activity;

13            (c) The contribution thus made provides the equivalent of hundreds  
14 of millions of dollars in services that might otherwise create a need  
15 for additional tax collections;

1       (d) Citizen service engineers a change of heart, resulting in more  
2 consciously responsible citizens, an increased capacity for leadership,  
3 and a greater sense of collective responsibility;

4       (e) Instilling in youth a sense of community and an ethic of  
5 service to the community is an integral part of the educational  
6 process. For example, service learning can motivate the discouraged  
7 learner and provide training in skill areas that open future career  
8 options;

9       (f) The state itself, through the programs and services of its  
10 agencies as well as through the provisions of law and rule-making, has  
11 a substantial impact on ~~((volunteer))~~ citizen service efforts and  
12 programs, and the state can take a leadership role in bringing  
13 government, schools, community organizations, private initiatives,  
14 institutions of higher education, and businesses together to  
15 intentionally foster ways to encourage citizen service and to  
16 coordinate existing part-time and full-time citizen service programs;

17       ~~((e))~~ (g) Public and private agencies depend in large measure on  
18 the efforts of volunteers for the accomplishment of their missions and  
19 actively seek to increase these efforts;

20       ~~((f))~~ (h) Business, industry, and labor in Washington state are  
21 increasingly interested in opportunities for community service;

22       ~~((g))~~ (i) Many needs remain which could and should be met by  
23 volunteers working on their own and through local and state-wide  
24 organizations, both governmental and private, nonprofit agencies;

25       ~~((h))~~ (j) Many Washington citizens have yet to become fully  
26 involved in the life of their communities;

27       ~~((i))~~ (k) The opportunity exists to encourage greater and more  
28 effective involvement of volunteers in the provision of needed  
29 community services, and the creativity, idealism, and experience of

1 citizens who serve their communities can be resources for new public  
2 policies to address social problems; and

3 ((+j)) (1) Planned and coordinated recognition, information,  
4 training, and technical assistance for volunteer and service efforts  
5 through a state-wide center for voluntary action have been proven to be  
6 effective means of multiplying the resources volunteers bring to the  
7 needs of their communities.

8 (2) Therefore, the legislature, in recognition of these findings,  
9 enacts the Center for Voluntary Action Act to ensure that the state of  
10 Washington makes every appropriate effort to encourage effective  
11 involvement of individuals in their communities and of volunteers who  
12 supplement the services of private, nonprofit community agencies and  
13 organizations, agencies of local government throughout the state, and  
14 the state government.

15 **Sec. 2.** RCW 43.150.040 and 1985 c 6 s 11 are each amended to read  
16 as follows:

17 The governor ((may)) shall establish a state-wide center for  
18 voluntary action within the department of community development and  
19 appoint a coordinator(~~(, who may employ such staff as necessary)~~). The  
20 director of the department of community development shall appoint at  
21 least one professional staff to carry out the purposes of this chapter.  
22 The provisions of chapter 41.06 RCW do not apply to the coordinator and  
23 the staff.

24 **Sec. 3.** RCW 43.150.050 and 1988 c 206 s 301 are each amended to  
25 read as follows:

26 The center, working in cooperation with individuals, local groups,  
27 and organizations throughout the state, may undertake any program or  
28 activity for which funds are available which furthers the goals of this

1 chapter. These programs and activities may include, but are not  
2 limited to:

3 (1) Serving as a liaison and a networking resource between  
4 community organizations, schools, institutions of higher education,  
5 business and industry, labor, and government service programs to link  
6 volunteers with service opportunities and to coordinate collaborative  
7 efforts between such organizations;

8 (2) Developing a strategic plan to foster citizen service. Such a  
9 strategic plan shall include:

10 (a) Establishing overall mission and belief statements;

11 (b) Developing goals and objectives that include expected  
12 programmatic outcomes;

13 (c) Assessing the capabilities and constraints, both internal and  
14 external to state government, that may affect plan implementation;

15 (d) Formulating, evaluating, and selecting strategies; and

16 (e) Implementing and controlling the plan;

17 (3) Providing an information clearinghouse and developing a  
18 resource library about programs, activities, and resources of value to  
19 volunteers and to organizations operating or planning volunteer  
20 programs;

21 ~~((2))~~ (4) Developing ways to recognize and reward citizens who  
22 serve their communities and the state in both a part-time and full-time  
23 capacity and sponsoring recognition events for outstanding individuals  
24 ~~((and))~~ , organizations, and communities;

25 ~~((3) Facilitating the involvement of business, industry,  
26 government, and labor in community service and betterment;~~

27 ~~(4))~~ (5) Providing information and training to community leaders  
28 for identifying community goals which may be achieved in whole or in  
29 part through the activities of volunteers and for organizing volunteer  
30 activities to achieve those goals;

1        (6) Organizing, or assisting in the organization of, training  
2 workshops and conferences, and serving as a broker for information  
3 resources, technical assistance, and expertise in training and  
4 facilitating citizen service;

5        ~~((+5))~~ (7) Publishing schedules of significant events, lists of  
6 published materials, accounts of successful programs and programming  
7 techniques, and other information concerning the field of volunteerism,  
8 and distributing this information broadly;

9        ~~((+6))~~ (8) Initiating pilot projects and developing and supporting  
10 models for citizen service which:

11        (a) Work with the higher education coordinating board to provide  
12 service opportunities at every campus for students who wish to serve  
13 and incorporate citizen service by students enrolled in institutions of  
14 higher education into the students' courses of study on a credit or  
15 noncredit basis;

16        (b) Integrate citizen service by students in public or private  
17 schools into the schools' curricula as an experiential learning tool or  
18 as an integral part of the school curriculum; and

19        (c) Expand utilization of seniors in citizen service to tap the  
20 wealth of knowledge and experience seniors possess;

21        (9) Actively seeking funding from the federal government and  
22 private foundations to initiate, continue, or expand citizen service  
23 programs or pilot projects throughout the state;

24        (10) In the event that funds are made available, administering  
25 grant programs to initiate, continue, or expand citizen service  
26 programs run by community organizations, schools, institutions of  
27 higher education, or government agencies;

28        (11) Fostering and promoting service-based private initiatives;

29        (12) Promoting the institutionalization of service components among  
30 existing organizations and agencies;

1        (13) Reviewing the laws and rules of the state of Washington, and  
2 proposed changes therein, to determine their impact on the success of  
3 volunteer activities and programs, and recommending ((such changes as  
4 seem appropriate to ensure the achievement of the goals of this  
5 chapter)) to the governor and the legislature additional policies that  
6 encourage and facilitate citizen service throughout the state;

7        ~~((7))~~ (14) Providing information about agencies and individuals  
8 who are working to prevent the spread of the human immunodeficiency  
9 virus, as defined in chapter 70.24 RCW, and to agencies and individuals  
10 who are working to provide health and social services to persons with  
11 acquired immunodeficiency syndrome, as defined in chapter 70.24 RCW;  
12 and

13        (15) Reporting to the legislature and the governor each biennium on  
14 the progress of the center, including an assessment of the activities  
15 accomplished to meet the goals of the center.

16        **Sec. 4.** RCW 43.150.060 and 1987 c 505 s 39 are each amended to  
17 read as follows:

18        (1) There is created the Washington state council on voluntary  
19 action to assist the governor and the center in the accomplishment of  
20 its mission.

21        ~~(2) ((Giving due consideration to geographic representation, the~~  
22 ~~governor shall appoint the members of the council as provided in this~~  
23 ~~section.~~

24        ~~(3))~~ The governor shall appoint a chair for the council.

25        ~~((4))~~ (3) The advisory council shall have ((an odd number of))  
26 twenty-five members, including its chair, appointed or reappointed for  
27 three-year terms((, with a total membership of no less than fifteen and  
28 no more than twenty-one)) as follows:

1 (a) One representative from each of the following state agencies  
2 shall be appointed by the head of the appropriate agency:

3 (i) The office of the superintendent of public instruction;

4 (ii) The higher education coordinating board;

5 (iii) The employment security department; and

6 (iv) The department of social and health services;

7 (b) The governor shall appoint a representative of the governor's  
8 office;

9 (c) The speaker of the house of representatives and the president  
10 of the senate shall jointly appoint a member of the legislature; and

11 (d) The governor shall appoint the remaining members of the  
12 council, giving due consideration to geographic representation.

13 ~~((+5))~~ (4) Members of the council shall upon request be reimbursed  
14 for travel expenses as provided in RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060.

15 ~~((+6))~~ (5) The council and its members shall:

16 (a) Advise the governor as the governor may request and direct;

17 (b) Propose, review, and evaluate activities and programs of the  
18 center and, to the degree practical, advocate decentralization of the  
19 center's activities, facilitate but not require or hinder existing  
20 local volunteer services, and not advocate the replacement of needed  
21 paid staff with volunteers; and

22 (c) Represent the governor and the center on such occasions and in  
23 such manner as the governor may from time to time provide.

24 (6) The representatives of state agencies appointed under  
25 subsection (3)(a) of this section shall each be assigned by such  
26 agencies to work on citizen service activities on behalf of those  
27 agencies for an amount of time not less than two-tenths of a full-time  
28 equivalent employee.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 5.**        In view of the expanded activities and  
2 responsibilities assigned to the center for voluntary action under the  
3 provisions of this act, the council for voluntary action shall consider  
4 renaming the center and the council in order to more accurately reflect  
5 their expanded mission and shall make a recommendation to the 1992  
6 legislature on whether the names should be changed.

7        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 6.**        If any provision of this act or its  
8 application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the  
9 remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other  
10 persons or circumstances is not affected.