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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6278**

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**State of Washington**

**52nd Legislature**

**1992 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Committee on Commerce & Labor (originally sponsored by Senators Skratek, Newhouse, Snyder, Anderson, Jesernig, Patterson, Owen, Erwin and Barr)

Read first time 02/07/92.

1 AN ACT Relating to the Washington rural development council; adding  
2 new sections to chapter 43.63A RCW; and creating a new section.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** Given the rapid change in both the  
5 structure of the state and world economy, it is recognized that  
6 experiments in identifying, communicating, and acting upon new means of  
7 protecting and enhancing the viability and self reliance of rural  
8 Washington communities are needed. Voluntary and meaningful  
9 communication between all levels of government, including tribal  
10 governments, and the nonprofit and private sectors is critical for the  
11 representation of the needs and interests of rural residents. It is  
12 also of critical importance to the integrity of the entire state to  
13 identify ways that urban and rural economies of Washington can function

1 to complement each other and reinforce the quality of life available to  
2 residents.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** There is established formal recognition  
4 of the efforts of the Washington state rural development council, in  
5 operation since February of 1991, through the voluntary support of  
6 state, federal, and local government and private businesses and  
7 citizens. In acknowledgment and recognition of these efforts all  
8 agencies and branches of state government that operate programs in  
9 rural areas of the state are encouraged to actively participate in the  
10 activities of the council.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The Washington state rural development  
12 council is a partnership among state, federal, and local governments,  
13 tribal governments, and the public and private sectors, and is  
14 organized to meet the needs of all members of the partnership. The  
15 council is organized as a mutual effort to mitigate negative impacts  
16 upon rural communities, enhance their viability and self reliance, and  
17 look for ways to coordinate, synchronize, or consolidate the efforts of  
18 all who serve rural communities and citizens.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The Washington state rural development  
20 council's mission has been determined by public forum to be: According  
21 to locally conceived and driven strategies, to coordinate and apply  
22 private, local, state, tribal, and federal resources to support the  
23 development of viable, self-reliant rural communities. A primary  
24 function of the council is that of facilitator, serving as a forum for  
25 communication between the council's constituencies and stakeholders;  
26 change agent, acting as both a sounding board for emerging issues and  
27 an advocate for change in policies and rules that inhibit the viability

1 of rural communities; and resource developer, serving to maximize  
2 knowledge of discretionary resources throughout rural areas of the  
3 state.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** The costs incurred by the Washington state  
5 rural development council shall be limited to amounts appropriated by  
6 state and federal governments specifically for its use, membership  
7 fees, and grants from public and private sources.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** The objectives of the Washington state  
9 rural development council should be consistent with the council's  
10 mission and honor the perspectives of the partnership in its  
11 undertaking of the following:

12 (1) Providing a forum for policy analysis concerning existing and  
13 proposed rural development strategies in Washington;

14 (2) Promoting coordination and cooperation between all levels of  
15 government, and private, public, and nonprofit groups in order to  
16 promote rural economic vitality;

17 (3) Facilitating communication between rural communities and  
18 organizations and other sectors of the state and nation;

19 (4) Promoting the establishment of rural-urban linkage partnerships  
20 that will be mutually beneficial to both areas in alleviating the  
21 distress of rapid economic growth or decline and promoting economic  
22 vitality;

23 (5) Identifying and addressing federal, state, and local  
24 administrative barriers that hinder economic vitality;

25 (6) Identifying and providing opportunities to educate and inform  
26 state, federal, and local policy and program staff as to the needs and  
27 special development context of rural Washington; and

1 (7) Promoting the establishment of educational and training  
2 opportunities for individuals in rural areas.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** The Washington state rural development  
4 council shall be located in a branch or agency of either the federal or  
5 state government according to a memorandum of understanding between the  
6 host agency and the partners represented on the council.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** Sections 2 through 7 of this act are  
8 each added to chapter 43.63A RCW.