

2 **ESHB 2256** - S COMM AMD

3 By Committee on Trade, Technology & Economic Development

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5 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the  
6 following:

7 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds and declares that:

8 (1) The expansion of international trade is vital to the overall  
9 growth of Washington's economy;

10 (2) The current state efforts to develop relations with other  
11 countries are insufficient for effective coordination and mobilization  
12 of resources necessary to promote economic growth and international  
13 trade;

14 (3) There is a need to strengthen and coordinate the state's  
15 activities in marketing its agricultural, manufacturing, technology,  
16 and service industries overseas, especially for small and medium-sized  
17 businesses; and

18 (4) The state needs to develop better and more consistent  
19 representation of its trade interests, especially as a result of new  
20 trade agreements and policies at the state, national, and international  
21 levels.

22 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 43.06 RCW  
23 to read as follows:

24 There is created within the office of the governor the position of  
25 Washington state trade representative. The Washington state trade  
26 representative is exempt from chapter 41.06 RCW. The Washington state  
27 trade representative must be paid a salary to be fixed by the governor  
28 in accordance with RCW 43.03.040. The department of community, trade,  
29 and economic development shall provide staff support.

30 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 43.06 RCW  
31 to read as follows:

32 The purposes of the Washington state trade representative are to:

- 1 (1) Strengthen the state's efforts to influence national and  
2 international trade policies affecting the state's agricultural,  
3 manufacturing, technology, and service industries;
- 4 (2) Respond to industry complaints concerning international trade  
5 barriers, and help represent its interest before appropriate agencies;
- 6 (3) Expand export opportunities for the state's small and medium-  
7 sized businesses; and
- 8 (4) Participate in the development of international agreements that  
9 affect Washington's economic interest in cooperation with the office of  
10 the United States trade representative and other appropriate agencies  
11 and organizations.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 43.06 RCW  
13 to read as follows:

14 The Washington state trade representative shall:

- 15 (1) Consult with the department of agriculture and the various  
16 agricultural commissions, created in Title 15 RCW, on the promotion of  
17 Washington agricultural commodities overseas;
- 18 (2) Consult with the department of community, trade, and economic  
19 development on improving the environment for international trade of  
20 Washington manufacturing, agriculture, and service industries overseas;
- 21 (3) Consult with the Pacific Northwest Economic Region to develop  
22 regional cooperation strategies that maximize resources and increase  
23 international trade opportunities;
- 24 (4) Consult with the small business export finance assistance  
25 center of Washington on the state's policies and programs on export  
26 trade and finance and its affiliated Pacific Northwest export  
27 assistance project;
- 28 (5) Chair the governor's advisory committee on international trade;
- 29 (6) Act as liaison for and assist in promotion of export promotion  
30 events including, but not limited to, trade fairs, missions,  
31 delegations, marts, seminars, and advertising;
- 32 (7) Develop, in consultation with the governor's advisory committee  
33 on international trade, the department of agriculture, and the  
34 department of community, trade, and economic development a long-term  
35 international trade strategy that specifies how the state together with  
36 industry plans to improve its capacity to respond to international  
37 trade opportunities;

1 (8) Advise the governor and the legislature on state activities in  
2 expanding international trade opportunities for Washington businesses,  
3 especially small and medium-sized businesses; and

4 (9) Accept or request grants or gifts from public and private  
5 sources to be used to defray the costs of the operation of the office."

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9 On page 1, line 1 of the title, after "trade;" strike the remainder  
10 of the title and insert "adding new sections to chapter 43.06 RCW; and  
11 creating a new section."

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