

**SENATE BILL REPORT**

**ESB 6601**

**AS PASSED SENATE, MARCH 3, 1994**

**Brief Description:** Providing for government performance and accountability.

**SPONSORS:** Senators Gaspard, Sellar, Quigley, Rinehart, Oke, Winsley, Ludwig, Drew, Franklin, Skratek and M. Rasmussen

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS & MEANS**

**Majority Report:** Do pass.

Signed by Senators Rinehart, Chairman; Quigley, Vice Chairman; Bauer, Cantu, Hargrove, Hochstatter, Ludwig, McDonald, Moyer, Niemi, Pelz, Snyder, Spanel, Sutherland, Talmadge, West, Williams and Wojahn.

**Staff:** Steve Jones (786-7440)

**Hearing Dates:** February 7, 1994; February 8, 1994

**BACKGROUND:**

A number of proposals have been made, both formally and informally, to explore methods of increasing the public accountability of state government and the efficiency of state programs and services. These proposals have called for increased performance audits, systematic reviews of state expenditures, performance-based management and budgeting methodologies, and other strategies to reduce structural barriers and increase incentives for innovative management.

**SUMMARY:**

The Washington Performance Partnership Council is created, consisting of the Governor, the Majority Leader of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the minority leaders of each house, and two statewide elected officials to be appointed by the Governor. The council is directed to facilitate a long-term process to improve state government. The council shall appoint an operating committee consisting of representatives of the executive and legislative branches of state government and representatives of the private sector.

The council and the operating committee are directed to prepare and submit to the Legislature a Statement of Strategic Intent for state government. The council and operating committee will also develop strategies for the continuous improvement of state government services by identifying the intended result of each government program or service, and redesigning state programs and internal systems, such as the state budget system, to encourage increased performance. Design teams consisting of front-line employees, managers, and

customers will be used to develop prototypes of improved management methods.

The Performance-Based Government Act of 1993 is revised. The State Auditor is authorized to conduct performance verifications of state agencies and programs when authorized to do so in the omnibus appropriations act.

**Appropriation:** none

**Revenue:** none

**Fiscal Note:** none requested

**TESTIMONY FOR:** None

**TESTIMONY AGAINST:** None

**TESTIFIED:** No one

**HOUSE AMENDMENT(S):**

Language was added to recognize the separation of powers between the executive and legislative branches, and clarifying the statement of strategic intent.