
HOUSE BILL 1739

State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1993 Regular Session

By Representatives Finkbeiner, Dyer, Heavey, Quall, Cothorn, Johanson, Springer, Brumsickle, Schoesler, Dunshee, H. Myers, Sheldon, Romero, Pruitt, G. Fisher, Orr, Roland, Lemmon and Anderson

Read first time 02/08/93. Referred to Committee on State Government.

1 AN ACT Relating to the citizen suggestion program; amending RCW
2 41.60.010 and 41.60.160; and adding a new section to chapter 41.60 RCW.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 41.60.010 and 1987 c 387 s 1 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 As used in this chapter:

7 (1) "Board" means the productivity board.

8 (2) "Business" has the same meaning as the definition of "person"
9 and "company" in RCW 82.04.030.

10 (3) "Citizen" means a person living in the state who intends to
11 reside in the state.

12 (4) "Citizen suggestion program" means the program developed by the
13 board under section 2 of this act.

14 (5) "Employee suggestion program" means the program developed by
15 the board under RCW 41.60.020.

16 ((+3)) (6) "State employees" means employees in state agencies and
17 institutions of higher education except for elected officials,
18 directors of such agencies and institutions, and their confidential

1 secretaries and administrative assistants and others specifically ruled
2 ineligible by the rules of the productivity board.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 41.60 RCW
4 to read as follows:

5 (1) The board shall formulate, establish, and maintain a citizen
6 suggestion program to encourage and reward meritorious suggestions by
7 citizens that will promote efficiency and economy in the performance of
8 any function of state government. The program shall include provisions
9 for the processing of suggestions having multi-agency impact and
10 postimplementation auditing of suggestions for fiscal accountability.

11 (2) The board shall make the final determination as to whether a
12 citizen suggestion award will be made and shall determine the nature
13 and extent of the award.

14 (3) Cash awards for suggestions generating net savings to the state
15 shall be ten percent of the net savings.

16 (4) No award may be granted in excess of ten thousand dollars.

17 (5) If the suggestion is significantly modified when implemented,
18 the percentage specified in subsection (3) of this section may be
19 decreased at the option of the board.

20 (6) The board shall establish guidelines for making cash awards for
21 suggestions for which benefits to the state are intangible or for which
22 benefits cannot be calculated.

23 (7) Funds for the awards shall be drawn from the appropriation of
24 the agency benefiting from the citizen's suggestion. If the suggestion
25 reduces costs to a nonappropriated fund or reduces costs paid without
26 appropriation from a nonappropriated portion of an appropriated fund,
27 an award may be paid from the benefiting fund or account without
28 appropriation.

29 (8) Awards may be paid to citizens for suggestions that generate
30 new or additional money for the general fund or any other funds of the
31 state. The director of financial management shall distribute moneys
32 appropriated for this purpose with the concurrence of the productivity
33 board. Transfers shall be made from other funds of the state to the
34 general fund, in amounts equal to award payments made by the general
35 fund, for suggestions generating new or additional money for those
36 other funds.

1 **Sec. 3.** RCW 41.60.160 and 1987 c 387 s 8 are each amended to read
2 as follows:

3 (1) No award may be made under this chapter to any elected state
4 official or state agency director.

5 (2) No award may be made to:

6 (a) A person who owns or is employed by a business that will
7 receive a financial benefit if the citizen suggestion were implemented;
8 or

9 (b) A person who could be considered as acting as an agent on
10 behalf of a business that would receive a financial benefit if the
11 citizen suggestion were implemented.

12 (3) No monetary award may be made to persons exempt from the state
13 civil service law under RCW 41.06.070 (5) or (9).

--- END ---