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HOUSE BILL 1808

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State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1993 Regular Session

By Representatives Shin, Mastin, Forner, Wineberry, Rayburn, Jones, Cothorn, J. Kohl, Wang, Van Luven, Chandler and Linville

Read first time 02/10/93. Referred to Committee on Trade, Economic Development & Housing.

1 AN ACT Relating to international trade; creating new sections; and  
2 providing an expiration date.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the expansion of  
5 international trade is vital to the economy of Washington state.  
6 International trade-related activities currently account for  
7 approximately twenty percent of employment in this state even though  
8 only a small percentage of businesses do extensive exporting.  
9 Washington's long-term economic prosperity depends on the creation and  
10 retention of jobs that international trade provides through providing  
11 an expanded marketplace for goods and services produced in this state.  
12 Increasing the number of businesses exporting and the foreign markets  
13 accessed helps diversify the state economy and make the state's  
14 businesses more competitive by providing experience in the  
15 international marketplace. There are many international markets that  
16 offer export potential for Washington businesses that are not currently  
17 being accessed, particularly several Pacific rim countries. The  
18 legislature also finds that there presently exists several programs and  
19 initiatives by federal, state, and local governments that have to be

1 coordinated effectively within and among economic development  
2 organizations, state agencies, academic institutions, and businesses so  
3 as to enhance the sale of goods and services in foreign markets.

4 Therefore, the legislature declares that an important public  
5 purpose can be accomplished through an international trade council  
6 that, through coordination and advice, can facilitate increased  
7 exporting by Washington businesses.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The Washington council on international  
9 trade is established in the office of the governor. The council shall  
10 consist of eighteen members as follows:

11 (a) Two members of trade organizations, appointed by the governor;

12 (b) One representative of ports, appointed by the governor;

13 (c) Four representatives of businesses active in exporting goods,  
14 appointed by the governor;

15 (d) The director of the Washington institute on international  
16 trade;

17 (e) Two members with experience in foreign marketing, appointed by  
18 the governor;

19 (f) Two experts in financing export transactions;

20 (g) The director of the department of trade and economic  
21 development, who shall chair the council;

22 (h) The director of the department of agriculture; and

23 (i) Four legislators, one from each major caucus in each chamber,  
24 two appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives and two  
25 appointed by the president of the senate.

26 (2) Nonlegislative members may receive reimbursement for travel  
27 under RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060. Legislative members may be  
28 reimbursed under RCW 41.04.300.

29 (3) The council shall:

30 (a) Advise the governor and departments of trade and economic  
31 development and agriculture regarding policies, programs, and  
32 activities to enhance the exporting of Washington goods and services to  
33 international markets;

34 (b) Review current state export targeting efforts and advise the  
35 governor and agency directors regarding markets with potential that  
36 currently are not being emphasized;

37 (c) Assist in the coordination of public export programs state-  
38 wide;

1 (d) Identify for the governor and legislature current and long-term  
2 international trade issues that need to be addressed by the state; and  
3 (e) Recommend methods to increase the awareness of international  
4 trade, especially its opportunities and its importance, throughout the  
5 state.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The council may accept gifts, grants,  
7 donations, devises, and bequests to facilitate the work of the council.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The council shall report to the governor and  
9 the appropriate standing committees in the legislature on its  
10 activities by December 1, 1994.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** This act shall expire on June 30, 1995.

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