

2 **SHB 1123** - S COMM AMD

3 By Committee on Labor, Commerce & Trade

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

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that:

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

10 (b) On a per capita basis, Washington state is the most
11 international trade dependent state in the nation;

12 (c) The north american free trade agreement (NAFTA) and the general
13 agreement on tariffs and trade (GATT) highlight the increased
14 importance of international trade opportunities to the United States
15 and the state of Washington;

16 (d) The passage of NAFTA and GATT will have a major impact on the
17 state's agriculture, aerospace, computer software, and textiles and
18 apparel sectors;

19 (e) There is a need to strengthen and coordinate the state's
20 activities in promoting and developing its agricultural, manufacturing,
21 and service industries overseas, especially for small and medium-sized
22 businesses, and minority and women-owned business enterprises; and

23 (f) The importance of having a coherent vision for advancing
24 Washington state's interest in the global economy has rarely been so
25 consequential as it is now.

26 (2) The legislature declares that the purpose of the office of the
27 Washington state trade representative is to strengthen and expand the
28 state's activities in marketing its goods and services overseas.

29 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The office of the Washington state trade
30 representative is created under the office of the governor. The office
31 shall serve as the state's official liaison with foreign governments on
32 trade matters.

33 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) The executive and administrative head of
34 the office of the Washington state trade representative shall be the

1 governor's special trade representative. The governor's special trade
2 representative shall be appointed by the governor with consent of the
3 senate, and shall serve at the pleasure of the governor. The
4 governor's special trade representative shall be paid a salary to be
5 fixed by the governor in accordance with RCW 43.03.040.

6 (2) The governor's special trade representative shall supervise and
7 administer the activities of the office of the Washington state trade
8 representative and shall advise the governor and legislature with
9 respect to trade matters affecting the state.

10 (3) The governor's special trade representative may establish a
11 trade advisory council to:

12 (a) Advise the governor and legislature on mechanisms for enhancing
13 the state export promotion and assistance efforts;

14 (b) Evaluate proposals for enhancement, coordination, and structure
15 of the state's activities in international trade, including but not
16 limited to proposals on new or expanded overseas trade offices, sister-
17 state relations, and new trade priorities for the state, and make
18 recommendations to the legislature and the governor on the merits of
19 such proposals; and

20 (c) Provide the special trade representative with such advice and
21 assistance as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of the office
22 of the Washington state trade representative.

23 (4) The governor's special trade representative may hire such
24 personnel as may be necessary for the general administration of the
25 office. To the extent permitted by law, state agencies may temporarily
26 assign staff to the office of the Washington state trade representative
27 to assist in carrying out the office's duties and responsibilities
28 under this chapter.

29 (5) The governor's special trade representative is authorized to:

30 (a) Consult with the department of agriculture and the various
31 agricultural commissions, created in Title 15 RCW, on the promotion of
32 Washington agricultural commodities overseas; and

33 (b) Consult with the department of community, trade, and economic
34 development on the promotion of Washington goods and services overseas.

35 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** Sections 2 and 3 of this act shall
36 constitute a new chapter in Title 43 RCW."

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4 On page 1, line 1 of the title, after "trade;" strike the remainder
5 of the title and insert "adding a new chapter to Title 43 RCW; and
6 creating a new section."

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