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SHB 2170 - H AMD 268 ADOPTED 3-17-97

By Representative Dunn

3 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the following:

NEW SECTION. Sec. 1. The legislature finds that certain industrial investments merit special designation and treatment by governmental entities. The legislature further finds that such investments bolster the local economy and have an impact on the state economy as a whole. It is the intent of the legislature to recognize that certain industrial investments and projects are of state-wide significance and that it is in the state interest to expedite their completion.

- 9 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 2.** The definitions in this section apply 10 throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires 11 otherwise.
- 12 (1) "Department" means the department of community, trade, and economic development.
 - (2) "Director" means the director of the department of community, trade, and economic development.
 - (3) "Eligible projects" means:
 - (a) Construction of new buildings and the acquisition of new machinery and equipment when the buildings, machinery, and equipment are to be used for either manufacturing or research and development activities; or
 - (b) Acquisition of new machinery and equipment to be used for either manufacturing or research and development if the machinery and equipment is housed in a leased new building; or
 - (c) Modernization projects involving construction, renovation, acquisition, or upgrading of existing buildings or machinery and equipment, including labor and services, and are intended to increase the production of the facility.
 - (4) "Local government" means either: (a) A city or county that plans under chapter 36.70 RCW; or (b) a city or county that is required to plan or elects to plan under chapter 36.70A RCW.

OPR 1«

- 1 (5) "Machinery and equipment" has the same meaning as in RCW 82.61.010 and 82.63.010.
 - (6) "Manufacturing" has the same meaning as in RCW 82.61.010.
- 4 (7) "Project of state-wide significance" means an eligible project that meets the requirements of section 3 of this act.
- 6 (8) "Research and development" has the same meaning as in RCW 82.61.010 and 82.63.010.
 - NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. For purposes of this chapter an industrial investment of state-wide significance or a project of state-wide significance is a border crossing project that involves both private and public investments carried out in conjunction with adjacent states or provinces or a private industrial development with private capital investment in manufacturing or research and development. To qualify as an industrial project of state-wide significance, the project must be completed after January 1, 1997, and have:
 - (1) In counties with a population of less than or equal to twenty thousand, a capital investment of twenty million dollars;
 - (2) In counties with a population of greater than twenty thousand but no more than fifty thousand, a capital investment of fifty million dollars;
 - (3) In counties with a population of greater than fifty thousand but no more than one hundred thousand, a capital investment of one hundred million dollars;
 - (4) In counties with a population of greater than one hundred thousand but no more than two hundred thousand, a capital investment of two hundred million dollars;
 - (5) In counties with a population of greater than two hundred thousand but no more than four hundred thousand, a capital investment of four hundred million dollars;
 - (6) In counties with a population of greater than four hundred thousand but no more than one million, a capital investment of six hundred million dollars; or
 - (7) In counties with a population of greater than one million, a capital investment of one billion dollars.
 - (8) Been designated by the director as a project of state-wide significance either (a) because the county in which the project is

OPR 2«

2170-S AMH DUNN PITT 45

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- 1 to be located is a distressed county and the economic circumstances
- 2 of the county merit the additional assistance such designation will
- 3 bring; or (b) because the impact on a region due to the size and
- 4 complexity of the project merits such designation.
 - NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. (1) A local government that receives an application for the development of a project of state-wide significance may, at their option, develop a process for expediting the review, approval, permitting, and completion of the project.
 - (2) The local government shall notify the department within ten days of receipt of an application for the development of a project of state-wide significance. The notification to the department shall contain information on the type of project, the amount of public and private investment in the project, and the local government contact person.
- 15 NEW SECTION. Sec. 5. (1) The director shall assign an ombudsman to each project of state-wide significance. 16 17 ombudsman is responsible for assembling a team of state and local government and private officials to help meet the planning and 18 19 development needs of the specific project of state-wide 20 significance.
 - (2) The ombudsman shall include those in the team that have responsibility over the planning, permitting and licensing, infrastructure development, work force development services, transportation services, and the provision of utilities for the specific project of state-wide significance.
- 26 (3) The team shall work together to expedite the approval of necessary permits for the furtherance of the specific project.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 6. Sections 1 through 5 of this act constitute a new chapter in Title 43 RCW.-

EFFECT: Removes the \$1,000 per person investment requirement for designation of project of state-wide significance and replaces it with designation based on county population. Clarifies language to allow director to designate projects in distressed areas that do not meet investment thresholds.

OPR 3«

2170-S AMH DUNN PITT 45

Allows local governments the option to use expedited process.

OPR 4«