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HOUSE BILL 1362

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State of Washington

55th Legislature

1997 Regular Session

By Representatives Clements, Skinner, Voloria, Tokuda, Mason, Poulsen, O'Brien, Costa, Blalock, Cooper, Dickerson, Wood, Kenney and Kessler

Read first time 01/23/97. Referred to Committee on Appropriations.

1 AN ACT Relating to funding for minority and women business  
2 development; amending RCW 43.31.0925, 43.31.093, 43.172.040, and  
3 43.172.050; and making appropriations.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 43.31.0925 and 1993 c 512 s 7 are each amended to read  
6 as follows:

7 There is established within the (~~department's business assistance~~  
8 ~~center~~) department of community, trade, and economic development the  
9 minority and women business development office. This office shall  
10 provide business-related assistance to minorities and women as well as  
11 serve as an outreach program to increase minority and women-owned  
12 businesses' awareness and use of existing business assistance services.

13 **Sec. 2.** RCW 43.31.093 and 1995 c 399 s 71 are each amended to read  
14 as follows:

15 The department of community, trade, and economic development shall  
16 contract with public and private agencies, institutions, and  
17 organizations to conduct entrepreneurial training courses for minority  
18 and women-owned small businesses. The instruction shall be intensive,

1 practical training courses in financing, marketing, managing,  
2 accounting, and recordkeeping for a small business, with an emphasis on  
3 federal, state, local, or private programs available to assist small  
4 businesses. The ((~~business assistance center~~)) department of  
5 community, trade, and economic development may recommend professional  
6 instructors, with practical knowledge and experience on how to start  
7 and operate a business, to teach the courses. Instruction shall be  
8 offered in major population centers throughout the state at times and  
9 locations which are convenient for minority and women small business  
10 owners and entrepreneurs.

11 **Sec. 3.** RCW 43.172.040 and 1993 c 512 s 19 are each amended to  
12 read as follows:

13 The ((~~business assistance center~~)) department shall modify the  
14 entrepreneurial training course established in RCW 43.31.093 in order  
15 to provide instruction which is appropriate to the specific needs of  
16 contracting businesses. This course of instruction shall be available  
17 to resident minority and women-owned small business contractors. The  
18 instruction shall be intensive, practical training courses in  
19 financing, bidding for contracts, managing, accounting, and  
20 recordkeeping for a contracting business, with an emphasis on federal,  
21 state, local, or private programs available to assist small  
22 contractors. The ((~~business assistance center~~)) department shall  
23 appoint professional instructors, with practical knowledge and  
24 experience in the field of small business contracting, to teach those  
25 courses developed to meet the specific needs of contracting businesses.  
26 Instruction shall be offered in major population centers throughout the  
27 state at times and locations which are convenient for people in the  
28 contracting business.

29 **Sec. 4.** RCW 43.172.050 and 1993 c 512 s 20 are each amended to  
30 read as follows:

31 Any resident minority or women-owned small business contractor may  
32 select a key management employee or employees to attend any course of  
33 instruction established under RCW 43.31.093. When the records,  
34 maintained by the ((~~business assistance center~~)) department, indicate  
35 that a key management employee of a small contracting business has  
36 attended all the courses offered, and has successfully completed any  
37 tests required, the department shall award the small contracting

1 business a certificate of accreditation which acknowledges successful  
2 completion of the courses. The department may also award a certificate  
3 of accreditation if a review of the key management employee's  
4 education, experience, and business history indicates that the business  
5 already possesses the knowledge and skills offered through the course  
6 of instruction, or if the key management employee successfully  
7 completes all tests required of those who attend the entrepreneurial  
8 training course.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** The sum of one hundred forty thousand  
10 dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for  
11 the fiscal year ending June 30, 1998, from the general fund to the  
12 department of community, trade, and economic development for the  
13 purposes of the minority and women business development office  
14 established under RCW 43.31.0925.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** The sum of one hundred forty thousand  
16 dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for  
17 the fiscal year ending June 30, 1999, from the general fund to the  
18 department of community, trade, and economic development for the  
19 purposes of the minority and women business development office  
20 established under RCW 43.31.0925.

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