
HOUSE BILL 2170

State of Washington

55th Legislature

1997 Regular Session

By Representatives Pennington, Sheldon and Ogden

Read first time 02/25/97. Referred to Committee on Trade & Economic Development.

1 AN ACT Relating to investments of state-wide significance; and
2 adding a new section to Title 43 RCW.

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

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

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The definitions in this section apply
13 throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

14 (1) "Department" means the department of community, trade, and
15 economic development.

16 (2) "Director" means the director of the department of community,
17 trade, and economic development.

18 (3) "Eligible projects" means:

1 (a) Construction of new buildings and the acquisition of new
2 machinery and equipment when the buildings, machinery, and equipment
3 are to be used for either manufacturing or research and development
4 activities; or

5 (b) Acquisition of new machinery and equipment to be used for
6 either manufacturing or research and development if the machinery and
7 equipment is housed in a leased new building; or

8 (c) Modernization projects involving construction, renovation,
9 acquisition, or upgrading of existing buildings or machinery and
10 equipment, including labor and services, and are intended to increase
11 the production of the facility.

12 (4) "Local government" means either: (a) A city or county that
13 plans under chapter 36.70 RCW; or (b) a city or county that is required
14 to plan or elects to plan under chapter 36.70A RCW.

15 (5) "Machinery and equipment" has the same meaning as in RCW
16 82.61.010 and 82.63.010.

17 (6) "Manufacturing" has the same meaning as in RCW 82.62.010.

18 (7) "Project of state-wide significance" means an eligible project
19 where the initial construction is scheduled to start after July 1,
20 1997, and the amount of investment is equal to, or greater than, one
21 thousand dollars times the population of the county where the eligible
22 project is located.

23 (8) "Research and development" has the same meaning as in RCW
24 82.61.010 and 82.63.010.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) A local government that receives an
26 application for the development of a project of state-wide significance
27 shall develop a process for expediting the review, approval,
28 permitting, and completion of the project.

29 (2) The local government shall notify the department within ten
30 days of receipt of an application for the development of a project of
31 state-wide significance. The notification to the department shall
32 contain information on the type of project, the amount of public and
33 private investment in the project, and the local government contact
34 person.

35 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) The director shall assign an ombudsman
36 to each project of state-wide significance. The ombudsman is
37 responsible for assembling a team of state and local government and

1 private officials to help meet the planning and development needs of
2 the specific project of state-wide significance.

3 (2) The ombudsman shall include those in the team that have
4 responsibility over the planning, permitting and licensing,
5 infrastructure development, work force development services,
6 transportation services, and the provision of utilities for the
7 specific project of state-wide significance.

8 (3) The team shall work together to expedite the approval of
9 necessary permits for the furtherance of the specific project.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Sections 1 through 4 of this act constitute
11 a new chapter in Title 43 RCW.

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