
HOUSE BILL 2577

State of Washington

55th Legislature

1998 Regular Session

By Representatives Hankins and Delvin

Read first time 01/15/98. Referred to Committee on Energy & Utilities.

1 AN ACT Relating to the Hanford area economic investment fund; and
2 amending RCW 43.31.422, 43.31.425, and 43.31.428.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 43.31.422 and 1993 c 280 s 44 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 The Hanford area economic investment fund is established in the
7 custody of the state treasurer. Moneys in the fund shall only be used
8 for reasonable assistant attorney general costs in support of the
9 committee or pursuant to the recommendations of the committee created
10 in RCW 43.31.425 and the approval of the director of community, trade,
11 and economic development for Hanford area revolving loan funds, Hanford
12 area infrastructure projects, or other Hanford area economic
13 development and diversification projects, but may not be used for
14 government or nonprofit organization operating expenses. Up to five
15 percent of moneys in the fund may be used for program administration.
16 For the purpose of this chapter "Hanford area" means Benton and
17 Franklin counties. Disbursements from the fund shall be on the
18 authorization of the director of community, trade, and economic
19 development or the director's designee after an affirmative vote of at

1 least six members of the committee created in RCW 43.31.425 on any
2 recommendations by the committee created in RCW 43.31.425. The fund is
3 subject to the allotment procedures under chapter 43.88 RCW, but no
4 appropriation is required for disbursements. The legislature intends
5 to establish similar economic investment funds for areas that develop
6 low-level radioactive waste disposal facilities.

7 **Sec. 2.** RCW 43.31.425 and 1991 c 272 s 20 are each amended to read
8 as follows:

9 The Hanford area economic investment fund committee (~~staffed by~~
10 ~~the local associate development organization~~) is hereby established.

11 (1) The committee shall have eleven members. The governor shall
12 appoint the members, in consultation with (~~the Hanford area associate~~
13 ~~development organization and~~) Hanford area elected officials, subject
14 to the following requirements:

15 (a) All members shall either reside or be employed within the
16 Hanford area.

17 (b) The committee shall have a balanced membership representing one
18 member each from the elected leadership of Benton county, Franklin
19 county, the city of Richland, the city of Kennewick, the city of Pasco,
20 a Hanford area port district, the labor community, and four members
21 from the Hanford area business and financial community.

22 (c) Careful consideration shall be given to assure minority
23 representation on the committee.

24 (2) Each member appointed by the governor shall serve a term of
25 three years, except that of the members first appointed, four shall
26 serve two-year terms and four shall serve one-year terms. A person
27 appointed to fill a vacancy of a member shall be appointed in a like
28 manner and shall serve for only the unexpired term. A member is
29 eligible for reappointment. A member may be removed by the governor
30 for cause.

31 (3) The governor shall designate a member of the committee as its
32 chairperson. The committee may elect such other officers as it deems
33 appropriate. Six members of the committee constitute a quorum and six
34 affirmative votes are necessary for the transaction of business or the
35 exercise of any power or function of the committee.

36 (4) The members shall serve without compensation, but are entitled
37 to reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses incurred in the

1 performance of official duties in accordance with RCW 43.03.050 and
2 43.03.060.

3 (5) Members shall not be liable to the state, to the fund, or to
4 any other person as a result of their activities, whether ministerial
5 or discretionary, as members except for willful dishonesty or
6 intentional violations of law. The department may purchase liability
7 insurance for members and may indemnify these persons against the
8 claims of others.

9 **Sec. 3.** RCW 43.31.428 and 1991 c 272 s 21 are each amended to read
10 as follows:

11 The Hanford area economic investment fund committee created under
12 RCW 43.31.425 may:

13 (1) Adopt bylaws for the regulation of its affairs and the conduct
14 of its business;

15 (2) Utilize the services of other governmental agencies;

16 (3) Accept from any federal or state agency loans or grants for the
17 purposes of funding Hanford area revolving loan funds, Hanford area
18 infrastructure projects, or Hanford area economic development projects;

19 (4) Recommend to the director rules for the administration of the
20 program, including the terms and rates pertaining to its loans, and
21 criteria for awarding grants, loans, and financial guarantees;

22 (5) Recommend to the director a spending strategy for the moneys in
23 the fund created in RCW 43.31.422. The strategy shall include five and
24 ten year goals for economic development and diversification for use of
25 the moneys in the Hanford area; ((and))

26 (6) Recommend to the director no more than two allocations eligible
27 for funding per calendar year, with a first priority on Hanford area
28 revolving loan allocations, and Hanford area infrastructure allocations
29 followed by other Hanford area economic development and diversification
30 projects if the committee finds that there are no suitable allocations
31 in the priority allocations described in this section;

32 (7) Establish and administer a revolving fund consistent with this
33 section and RCW 43.31.422 and 43.31.425; and

34 (8) Make grants from the Hanford area economic investment fund
35 consistent with this section and RCW 43.31.422 and 43.31.425.

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