

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1499**

55th Legislature  
1997 Regular Session

Passed by the House April 19, 1997  
Yeas 91 Nays 1

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**Speaker of the  
House of Representatives**

Passed by the Senate April 15, 1997  
Yeas 45 Nays 0

\_\_\_\_\_  
**President of the Senate**

Approved

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

I, Timothy A. Martin, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1499** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Chief Clerk**

FILED

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1499**

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Passed Legislature - 1997 Regular Session

AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

**State of Washington                      55th Legislature                      1997 Regular Session**

**By** House Committee on Trade & Economic Development (originally sponsored by Representatives Schoesler, Sheahan, Doumit, Morris, Tokuda, Kessler, Scott and Dickerson; by request of Department of Community, Trade, and Economic Development)

Read first time 02/27/97.

1            AN ACT Relating to a rural development council; adding new sections  
2 to chapter 43.31 RCW; and providing an expiration date.

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

4            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 43.31 RCW  
5 to read as follows:

6            (1) The Washington state rural development council is established  
7 and governed by an executive committee consisting of eleven members,  
8 appointed by the governor. The members will include representatives  
9 from the following categories:    Business; natural resources;  
10 agriculture; environment; economic development; education; health;  
11 human services; counties; cities; and tribal governments.

12            (2) New members of the executive committee are appointed for terms  
13 of three years from the current membership list of the rural  
14 development council, as much as possible. Committee members should be  
15 people who either live, work, or provide direct services in rural  
16 areas. Committee membership must consist of no less than ninety  
17 percent of the members living in a rural area. As a transition  
18 strategy for the council, four representatives (business, counties,  
19 health, agriculture) will be appointed in 1997, four (human services,

1 natural resources, cities, environment) in 1998, and three (economic  
2 development, tribal government, education) in 1999. The new council  
3 will be fully formed in 1999.

4 (3) The governor may make appointments from a list of candidates  
5 generated by the executive committee. The executive committee shall  
6 generate a list of at least three but not more than six candidates from  
7 recommendations from state-wide associations. The list of candidates  
8 for the county representative shall be generated by the Washington  
9 state association of counties. The list of candidates for the city  
10 representative shall be generated by the association of Washington  
11 cities. In making appointments, the governor shall consider an  
12 equitable geographic distribution.

13 (4) Members of the Washington state rural development council shall  
14 receive no compensation for their services, but shall be eligible to  
15 receive reimbursement for travel expenses as provided in RCW 43.03.050  
16 and 43.03.060.

17 (5) The department of community, trade, and economic development  
18 may provide staff support, administrative assistance, and office space  
19 to the council as available.

20 (6) The Washington state rural development council executive  
21 committee is authorized to establish operating procedures, policies,  
22 and bylaws, and appoint committees. In addition, the executive  
23 committee is responsible for hiring, evaluating, and if necessary,  
24 firing the executive director according to state policies and rules.

25 (7) The Washington state rural development council is directed to:  
26 Inform legislators, the governor's office, state agencies, and federal  
27 agencies about the rural perspective on community development issues;  
28 identify and in some cases develop recommended improvements to existing  
29 resource delivery systems; and serve as a liaison or intermediary  
30 between rural communities and public and private resource providers.  
31 The council's mission is to improve the delivery and accessibility of  
32 public and private resources to meet the needs of rural communities.

33 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 43.31 RCW  
34 to read as follows:

35 The legislature encourages state agencies to contribute financially  
36 to the rural development council. In addition to the United States  
37 department of agriculture and the state department of community, trade,  
38 and economic development, all state agencies, federal agencies, and

1 state-wide associations that make a significant financial contribution  
2 to the rural development council shall be ex officio members. In  
3 particular, state agencies serving rural areas, including the  
4 departments of agriculture, fish and wildlife, ecology, employment  
5 security, health, natural resources, social and health services, and  
6 transportation, and the utilities and transportation commission, are  
7 encouraged to contribute financially. Financial contributions from  
8 state agencies along with those from the private sector and state-wide  
9 associations will enable the rural development council to leverage  
10 federal funds at a three-to-one ratio annually.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** Sections 1 and 2 of this act expire June 30,  
12 2003.

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